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SATURDAY, JANUARY 24, 1948.

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RACING TIPS

(BY "THE TURF")

First Race

Kentucky Moon

Queen of Hearts

Fine Shot

Second Race

Beckenham

Priority

Big Shot

Third Race

Rose Emma

Thunderbolt

Foggy

Fourth Race

Sapientia

Shahin

Amigo

Fifth Race

Domino

Belle Fontaine

Arlington

Sixth Race

Nurse Queen

Alamara

Daisy Bell

Seventh Race

Anyway

Artie

Constant Star

Eighth Race

Lana

Desert Knight

King of Peace

Ninth Race

Ding How

Siber

Mahubay

Tenth Race

Herole Lassie

Mona Lisa

Strathmama

Eleventh Race

Blue Sky

Pearl Diver

Kille

Train Smash: 3 Killed

London, Jan. 23.—Three men were killed and 34 men and women were injured when a packed electric train from Ore, near Hastings, crashed into the rear of an empty stationary Brighton train at London Bridge station this morning.

Those killed included the motor-man of the Ore train and a man who was standing by a bookstall on the platform. The other casualty was a learner motor-man on the Ore train. His identity is as yet unknown.

The Ore train forced the Hastings train through the station buffers, demolishing a bookstall in which two passengers were trapped. The two passengers were trapped for three hours in the demolished cab. Rescue parties used all kinds of tools, including a huge breakdown crane, in desperate efforts to free them, but when it became known that they were dying, a clergyman forced his way through the twisted metal to comfort them before they died. The two bodies were extricated later.

Nineteen of the injured passengers were taken to Guy's Hospital. Many had miraculous escapes.

Mr Attlee's Vigorous Attack On Communism

CANNOT SHUT EYES TO POSSIBILITY OF WAR

London, Jan. 23.—The Prime Minister, Mr Clement Attlee, today followed up the warning to Soviet Russia against "playing with fire in international affairs" given by his Foreign Minister, Mr Ernest Bevin, yesterday with another strong attack on Communism.

"We recognise that there is in Communism a dynamic force," he said in winding up the two-day debate on foreign affairs in the House of Commons. "It is a fanatical movement enlisting the support of people of a certain type of mind or in a certain condition of society and it has become the official creed of a great nation. It has but slight appeal to those with experience of Western civilisation, but it does make an appeal to backward peoples who have never known anything better."

"Communism has a tremendous driving force. But Britain was not prepared to accept Communism, although she wishes to have the friendly relations with the people of Soviet Russia and with the Communist state."

"We are absolutely opposed to the Communist way of life. The police state is completely repugnant to the people of Western Europe."

"We shall not try to foist our system on the Soviet Union and we equally demand that they should not attempt to foist theirs on us."

"I am sure Mr Stalin is enough of a realist to appreciate the complete failure during the difficult inter-war years of the Communist creed to make any effective advance in this country."

"Therefore, he should give up the idea that somehow or other Britain is going to turn to Communism."

"The world we want to see is one in which there are a number of diverse and different units as compared with the Communist world, in which they try to make Bulgaria and Yugoslavia little copies of Russia."

"If Western civilisation is to stand against this ideological assault—I am talking of a war of ideas and not of bombs—it must attain a degree of unity."

"But any attempt to get uniformity is bound to defeat the very object we have in mind."

Mr Attlee said that although Britain naturally desired to see all countries turn to democratic socialism, it was not for Britain to interfere.

He believed, however, they could all work together despite differences because they had one point in common—believing that in a modern world, there must be an ordered economy.

The 19th-century conception of an "anarchic" system of private enterprise was dead today.

HUMAN RIGHTS

Another thing which united Western Europe was the recognition of human rights.

"It is curious that there are some would-be Leftwingers who close their eyes to the absence of human rights when they look to Eastern Europe."

"These people have no right to claim they are in the van of human progress. The only van they are in is the police van."

"In the field of human rights, Russia and the states of Eastern Europe are right at the back end of the queue."

He could not understand how people could oppose the Marshall Plan when they had nothing whatever to put in its place, unless they were prepared to march to the realisation of their ideas through death and starvation of millions.

Mr Attlee believed that Britain has the chance of giving a great lead. Britain was showing that what amounted to a social revolution could be brought about by peaceful and democratic means—that one could get a planned economy without sacrificing human rights and liberties.

That was the work she had before her.

Amid cheers, Mr Attlee said he did not believe it was good to be talking of war. On the other hand it was no good shutting one's eyes to the possibility of war.

"I do not believe war to be imminent, but I believe we have to use our greatest exertions to do away with the causes of war and prevent war arising."

There was anxiety in the House of Commons over the results of the world being divided on ideological lines.

There was also great anxiety at the course of the Russian actions. There was a general desire to know the real object of the Russian attack on Russia. No answer was given even by those who habitually explained the Russian point of view.

Parliament, Mr Attlee declared, recognised the need of leadership in the non-Communist world and there was general support for Mr Bevin's policy of closer political and economic integration of Europe, coupled with the recognition that Western Europe could not live by itself.

This desire for a wider integration with Africa and other Western democracies and with the British Dominions.

The union of Europe needed to be achieved under the larger unity of the United Nations Organisation.

European civilisation must spread all over the world.

Possibilities of War

As for the practical steps on European economy, there was already machinery in progress for the allocation of wheat, rice, oils and other materials, some on a world and some on a European basis.

The possibilities of a Western European customs union had also been examined and were now passing through the technical stages at Brussels.

This would mean that trade would eventually become free throughout that area. "We should press ahead with the utmost vigour with this idea, consistent with the immense complexities of this problem."

MUST-PRESS AHEAD

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GENERAL EISENHOWER

Eisenhower Refuses To Be Candidate For Presidency

Washington, Jan. 23.—General Eisenhower today finally and positively repudiated efforts to nominate him for President. He told Republican supporters that he "could not accept nomination to high political office."

General Eisenhower's positive statement came after months of speculation on whether he would or would not be a candidate. He had disavowed political ambitions on many occasions, but never, until today, with sufficient force to persuade his admirers he really meant it.

He is generally counted as the most glamorous potential political figure in the country and many Republicans had hoped to capitalise on his winning smile.

Polls indicated that on the basis of present conditions he would have defeated President Truman if he had headed the Republican ticket in November's Presidential election.

ENGLAND OUT FOR 253

Bridgeport, Barbados, Jan. 23.—England were all out for 253 runs in reply to the West Indies first innings total of 296 runs in the first Test match, which continued here today.

By the close of play on the third day, West Indies had scored 117 for four wickets in their second innings.

Ex-King Michael Betrothed

Davos, Switzerland, Jan. 23.—Ex-King Michael, of Rumania, and Princess Anne, of Bourbon-Parma, became betrothed in Lausanne on December 6, a member of the ex-king's household stated tonight.

He added that there would be no official announcement and that the marriage was not expected to take place immediately.

FILM STAR ILL

Columbus, Ohio, Jan. 23.—While stage and screen actress Kay Francis lay seriously ill from an overdose of sleeping pills today, her stage manager Howard Graham was detained by police for five hours and then released.

Graham was released when Miss Francis regained consciousness and told police the cause of her illness.

RUSSIA REJECTS UN REQUEST TO VISIT NORTH KOREA

Lake Success, Jan. 23.—The United Nations announced today that Soviet Russia has rejected a request by the UN Assembly's Korean Independence Commission to enter the Northern (Soviet) zone of Korea.

The Soviet position, which in effect restricts the Commission's efforts to the Southern (US) zone was set forth in a letter from Soviet Deputy Foreign Minister Andrei Gromyko to Andrew Cordier, Executive Assistant to Secretary General Trygve Lie.

"UNALLOYED TRAGEDY"

"It is my conviction that necessary and wise subordination of military to civil power will best be sustained...when lifelong professional soldiers...abstain from seeking high political office."

He said it would be "unalloyed tragedy" if future military commanders were selected with an eye to their potentialities in the political

STRIKE PARALYSES BAVARIA

Inefficiency Of German Officials To Blame

GEN. CLAY SEEKS MORE RATIONS

Munich, Jan. 23.—Bavaria, the largest state in the United States Zone of Germany, was paralysed today by a 24-hour general strike of nearly 1,000,000 workers and railwaymen which started at midnight.

The strike was called by the Bavarian Trade Union Council in protest against the halving of the fat ration, the reduction of the meat ration by 25 per cent, and the rejection by the Bavarian Government of the Communist proposals to end food hoarding.

All trains, including military transport, came to a standstill last night.

Strike leaders warned the Bavarian Government that if their meeting with the Cabinet failed to produce results, the 24-hour strike might be prolonged.

The strike was reported to be spreading to other parts of the Zone, but trade union officials in Hesse refused Communist proposals to join.

In Wiesbaden, Hesse, yesterday, more than 1,500 industrial workers voted to join 7,000 factory workers who have been on strike since Monday.

A GERMAN AFFAIR
Major General George P. Hays, the acting United States Military Governor, said in Berlin that he would not interfere in the Bavarian strike unless it got out of hand and American security was threatened.

"It is entirely a German affair, caused by the inefficiency of the German officials who have not been distributing the food efficiently," he said.

"It will probably be a demonstration rather than a strike—the same kind of thing as the people back home would organise to express their displeasure in similar circumstances."

Restaurants and cafes in Munich were not joining today's strike, the Union of Catering Establishments announced.

The Bizonal Control Office at Frankfurt has approved German proposals that states in Bizonia found withholding food produce from the common pool shall be punished by ration cuts.

ANGLO-AMERICAN DISCUSSIONS

London, Jan. 23.—Representatives of Britain and the United States have discussed in London tentative plans for the setting up of a chain of Anglo-American tactical air bases in Cyrenaica, North Africa.

Observers in London consider that such bases would probably be primarily in the Benghazi area with some at the eastern end of Cyrenaica, possibly around Tobruk.

There is already a wartime aerodrome at El-Aden, outside Tobruk. British troops evacuated from Palestine will probably be moved to Cyprus, Benghazi and Tripoli, it was reliably learned here today.

The new bases, the observers consider, would probably be smaller than the Air Transport Command base which the United States is reopening at Mellaha, near Tripoli.

PLEDGE TO CHIEFTAIN
The future of any bases planned as the outcome of the present Anglo-American talks will, of course, be subject to the decisions on the future of the former Italian colonies which the "Big Four" deputies may make later this year.

Britain's wartime pledge to Sayid Muhammad Idris El Senussi, chief of the Senussi tribes, that Cyrenaica should not be handed back to Italian rule in any form makes it at least possible that Britain's close connection with Cyrenaica will be maintained.

Air bases in Cyrenaica, even though temporary, would be useful in maintaining Anglo-American control of the Eastern Mediterranean and the approaches to the oil supplies of the Middle East after the evacuation of Palestine and pending the setting up by Britain of a more permanent base in East Africa.

He told correspondents that the United States was planning no emergency food shipments to solve the present critical situation. "The Germans must solve it themselves."

When we see that German administrators are doing all they can, it will encourage us to act," he added.

CLAY'S QUEST

Washington, Jan. 23.—General Lucius D. Clay, the United States Commander in Germany, disclosed today that he was asking Congress for \$700 million to raise the average German food ration in Bizonia to 1,800 calories daily.

General Clay said that he saw no reason why the overall ration next month should not be maintained at the 1,400 calories level or why the threatened cut to 800 calories in certain sectors of the British Zone could not be averted.

He told correspondents that the United States was planning no emergency food shipments to solve the present critical situation. "The Germans must solve it themselves."

When we see that German administrators are doing all they can, it will encourage us to act," he added.

RATIONS ASSURANCE

Frankfurt, Jan. 23.—The Bizonal Control Office announced here today that nowhere in its area will the population receive much less than 1,200 calories daily during the forthcoming ration period, the German news service in the United States Zone reported.

MALAYAN FEDERATION BOYCOTT

Singapore, Jan. 23.—The Singapore Branch of the Malayan Communist Party today called for a boycott of the new Malayan Federation, which it called "a ruthless weapon for perpetuating colonialism" and the policy of "divide and rule."

They urged "every adherent to democratic principles" to boycott the Federation Legislature and the Singapore elections.

The treaty establishing a Federation of Malaya, consisting of nine Malayan States and the Settlements of Penang and Malacca, was signed on Wednesday by Sir Edward Gent, Governor of the Malayan Union, and the Sultans of the Malay States.

The Privy Council is expected to sign the Order-in-Council ratifying the treaty on January 26, so that the Federation can be put into force on February 1.

SHOWING
TO-DAY**KING'S**At 2.30, 5.15,
7.20 & 9.30 p.m.J. ARTHUR RANK PRESENTS
MARGARET LOCKWOOD
PATRICIA ROC
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THE FIFTH DAY?

"THE TEARS OF YANGTZE"

DIALOGUE IN MANDARIN

FIRST PART

"EIGHT WAR-TORN YEARS"DAILY AT 12.00 NOON,
2.30 & 7.15 P.M.

SECOND PART

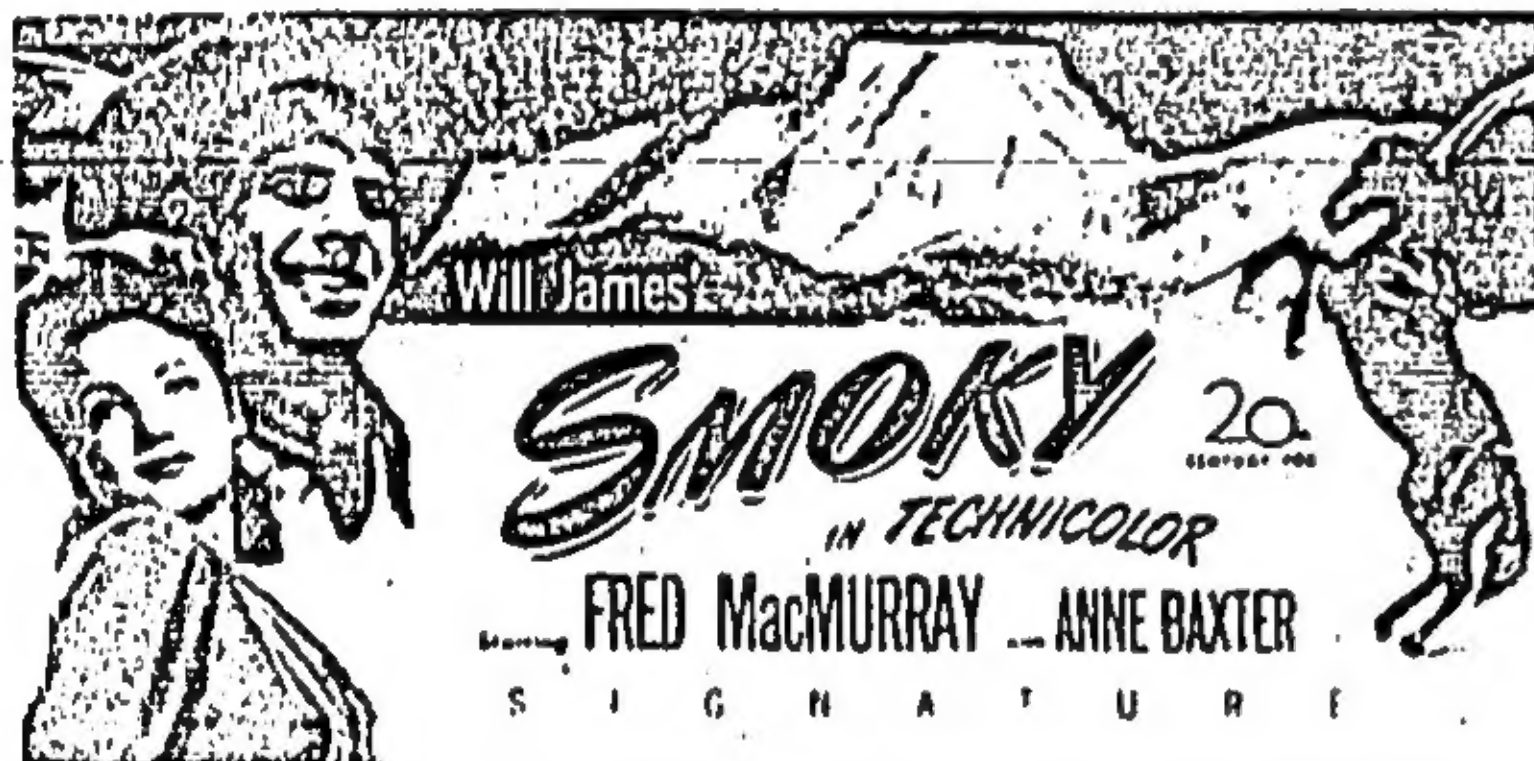
"THE DAWN"

DAILY AT 5.00 & 9.30 P.M.

ORIENTAL

COMMENCING TO-DAY: 2.30-5.15-7.20-9.20 P.M.

AN EXCITING PICTURE OF THE WEST!

— SPECIAL SUNDAY MORNING SHOW AT 12.30 —
Humphrey Bogart in "PASSAGE TO MARSEILLES"

SHOWING

TO-DAY

CathayAt 2.30, 5.20,
7.20 & 9.20 p.m.Ray MILLAND • Dorothy LAMOUR • Alan LADD
Bing CROSBY • Bob HOPE • Paulette GODDARD in

SHOWING

TO-DAY

MAJESTICAt 2.30, 5.20,
7.20 & 9.20 p.m.**COURAGE OF LASSIE**

IN TECHNICOLOR

Starring:

ELIZABETH TAYLOR
FRANK MORGAN & TOM DRAKE
AN M-G-M HIT

Stars accuse the film bosses

THERE are signs that restlessness among British film stars over "sausage-machine" production methods is coming to a head. The drift from the studios to stage work is one significant portent.

The rather pompous announcement by the Rank organisation, suspending Margaret Lockwood's contract for declining a role, is unimportant in itself. They have already chosen a new film for her, "My Sister is Dead."

But the incident is the first public manifestation of an unhealthy tendency in Big Business film methods here.

Many stars and directors have complained to me of the bureaucratic system.

Directors find they are being "directed" from a high executive level in a way that stifles imagination and enthusiasm. Stars are complaining of type-casting and the compulsion, under long-term contracts, of acting in unsuitable roles. This is why an increasing number

JOAN DOWLING
Bond-street incident

of our film-makers are breaking away to work independently of the big group system. It is a natural artistic urge towards freedom of the screen.

FARR GETS TOUGH

ANATOLE DE GRUNWALD, film writer and producer, who left the Rank fold to form his own company, is to follow "Bond Street," now nearing completion at Welwyn, with an adaptation of the Puskin classic, "Queen of Spades."

Ethel Barrymore, pillar of the American stage and screen, may come over to London to play one of the principal parts.

In "Bond Street"—which contains four distinct stories, linked together by a wedding-dress—Derek Farr gets his first big acting chance. He will be seen in a tough character-role.

BOND-STREET TENT

BEST story of this production concerns the scenes filmed in Bond-street itself.

Director Gordon Parry and two cameramen set up a "telephone-replica" tent on the kerb. They donned workmen's overalls and, for two days, squatted in the enclosure with miniature cameras.

The actors mingled quietly with the shoppers; no one bothered to glance into the "hole-in-the-road" tent. The best shot of all was unplanned.

Studio Highlights And Sidelights

SIR Laurence Olivier's "Hamlet," which will be shown for the first time in April, cost £500,000 to produce. Even with all the efforts at retrenchment, it still costs about £200,000 to make most major British pictures. An exception is "Shadow of Tomorrow"—which deals with Britain's employment of ex-Nazi concentration camp scientists on research for a possible future war at £70,000.

AUSTRALIAN Ann Richards, in New York on holiday from Hollywood, finds the city amazing. On her arrival, she found herself sharing colossal Broadway billboards with Sylvia Sydney and John Hodiak in posters plugging "Love From a Stranger." Said Ann: "I can scarcely find myself in that picture." She distinctly remembers acting for months before the cameras, while "Love From a Stranger" was being made.

SADU, for the American Gibraltar Productions, "Song of India," is flying to Ceylon for jungle background scenes.

THE Corridor of Mirrors, just completed, writes a new chapter in cinema history of two countries. It is the first British film to be made entirely in France since the coming of sound. Made by an independent company, Apollo Films, it stars Eric Portman. It has opened the door to future co-operation between Britain and France. More British films are likely to be made in Paris.

A COMPLETE greenery, valued at more than U.S.\$100,000 containing all kinds of tropical shrubbery

THEATRE Directory

QUEEN'S—Do You Love Me? (Maureen O'Hara, Dick Haymes)

KING'S—Jassy (Margaret Lockwood)

CENTRAL—Cloak and Dagger (Gary Cooper, Lilli Palmer)

LEE—The Tears of Yangtze (Chinese Picture)

ORIENTAL—Smoky (Fred MacMurray, Anne Baxter)

CATHAY—Star Spangled Rhythm (Ray Milland, Dorothy Lamour)

ALHAMBRA—Cloak and Dagger

STAR—Bells of St. Mary (Bing Crosby, Ingrid Bergman)

MAJESTIC—Courage of Lassie (Elizabeth Taylor)

Eighteen-year-old Joan Dowling (she was the eldest evicuee in the play "No Room at the Inn") had to saunter along the street as an over-dressed match-maker from a fashion house.

When the "rushes" were shown on the studio screen, there appeared the visage of a man, turning and gazing with interest at Joan. It fitted the scene so well that the shot is being kept in.

The unwitting actor may be in for a shock at his local cinema.

NOISES OFF

I HAVE no intention of gate-crashing the To Boo or Not To Boo debate. But recent demonstrations at Covent Garden call for comment.

Friendly operatic rivalry is healthy. But if this rivalry is going to foster vocal factions among the followers of the theatres concerned, we can look for some disconcerting developments.

Impartial observers have suspected that there might be more than appeared on the surface behind some of the opera boosing lately. Correspondence: I have received lends colour to this view.

We have plenty of room in London for opera in English and Italian. There is no need for the partisans to wage a miniature war.

POETS' PALACE

GAINSBOROUGH'S idea of making a Byron film, with Dennis Price in the lead, is an interesting one, though attempts to dramatise literary genius do not always succeed, as a recent Shelley-Byron play again instanced.

The film will picture some of the authentic Italian backgrounds, including the poet's old palace on the Venice Grand Canal. Mr Price and a location until have recently been out there.

But I am sorry they are calling the picture "The Bad Lord Byron." This seems a cheap pandering to the wrong kind of box-office appeal.

was maintained to dress jungle sets in "Tarzan and the Mermaids."

MALAYAN-BORN Dulcie Savagely-Bailey (Dulcie Gray to film-goers) has found an attractive job or herself. With husband Michael Denison she will star in film called "The Glass Mountain," which will necessitate a location trip to the Dolomites. Michael will be a pianist, Dulcie a silly wife, as she is in the current "Mine Own Executioner."

OBJECTIONS of the present Lord Byron to Gainsborough's film "The Bad Lord Byron" appear to have been overcome. The 66-year-old descendant of Lord George Byron, the poet, recently entertained in his home, Thrumpton Hall, Dennis Price, the actor with the title role in the film.

Spencer's The Man For The Ladies

By PATRICIA CLARY

WHO'S the man who most strongly influences today's woman, emotionally? Clark Gable, Van Johnson, Frank Sinatra, her husband?

No, fellows, it's Spencer Tracy. That's what the ladies said, when search-guilds from the Women's Research Guild of America asked them. They said Tracy had a strong, dependable look about him that was very influencing.

Gable, Johnson and the rest of the screen's romantic figures came in poor seconds.

In the past, it was a foregone conclusion that any actor in the cast was a romantic hero but Tracy. No matter how sympathetic Tracy's character, the other fellow, not the girl, Gable did for years.

The strength of Gable's romantic scenes was measured in kisses, Tracy's by slammed doors. He was the man who always walked out and said "goodbye."

Tracy Steps Out

But in "Cass Timberlane," M-G-M's movie of the Sinclair Lewis novel about a respectable Minnesota judge, Tracy brings the dependable, influential hero into his own. He not only marries Lena Turner but takes her away from Cameron Mitchell and keeps Zachary Scott, the wolf from the door. He does it again in the Frank Capra picture, "State of the Union," in which he is married to Katharine Hepburn, who according to the script is wildly in love with him, and attractive to Angela Lansbury.

Tracy even holds his own, in Miss Lansbury's affections, against Van Johnson.

"And that is some satisfaction," Tracy said.

It's almost as satisfying, he said, as being chosen, hands down, the No. 1 influence on American women's emotions.

SHOWING
TO-DAY**QUEEN'S**at 2.30, 5.15,
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YOUR RADIO LISTENING FOR NEXT WEEK IN DETAIL—A TELEGRAPHIC PREVIEW

SECRET CORRESPONDENCE OF HITLER AND MUSSOLINI

Radio Feature For Next Monday

The secret correspondence of Hitler and Mussolini, in dramatised radio form, will be presented to listeners by ZBW on Monday night at 7.45. This is a programme which throws a fascinating light on the relationship between the two dictators. It has been arranged for the BBC by H. R. Trevor-Roper, who did so much to solve the mystery of Hitler's death, and Terence Tiller, and is produced by Laurence Gilliam.

Tonight Mr. Donald McCullough will give a talk on "How to run a Brain's Trust," and next Monday evening Mr. K. A. Watson starts a new series of talks on photography. Details of forthcoming programme follow.

Tonight

12.30 Daily Programme Summary.

12.32 "Le Beau Danube"—Hallel Miale (Johann Strauss, arr. Desormere). From the repertoire of Colonel Hiale's Ballets Russes.

Introduction Scene and Waltz: Polka, Waltz, and Entrance of the Ritz. Mazurka and Scene of the Comedians: Blue Danube Waltz: Mazurka-Finale (First Part) and Conclusion—London Philharmonic Orchestra conducted by Antal Dorati.

1.00 Songs by Harold Williams (Harlequin). When the Harvest is in (T. C. Steinfeldt). The Merry-Go-Round (Cohen). Onward, awake, believe (Cohen). The Late Player (Albion). Ten Green Bottles (Traditional). With Male Chorus.

1.15 NEWS, WEATHER REPORT AND ANNOUNCEMENTS.

1.25 Orchestral Interlude.

1.30 STUDIO: ANDY HADALGO AND HIS ORCHESTRA.

1.35 Studio: "The Tease" on Sport.

1.40 Studio: "The Tease" on Sport.

1.45 Studio: "The Tease" on Sport.

1.50 Studio: "The Tease" on Sport.

1.55 Studio: "The Tease" on Sport.

2.00 Studio: "The Tease" on Sport.

2.05 Studio: "The Tease" on Sport.

2.10 Studio: "The Tease" on Sport.

2.15 Studio: "The Tease" on Sport.

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2.45 Studio: "The Tease" on Sport.

2.50 Studio: "The Tease" on Sport.

Robert Burns—The Light Opera Company.

Interlude: Ave Maria (Schubert) on Wings of Song (Mendelssohn).

1.15 TRANSCRIPTION SERVICE: "THE LIGHT OPERA COMPANY."

1.20 Studio: Religious Talk to Children.

1.25 Studio: Religious Talk to Children.

1.30 Studio: Religious Talk to Children.

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4.30 Studio: Religious Talk to Children.

Tuesday

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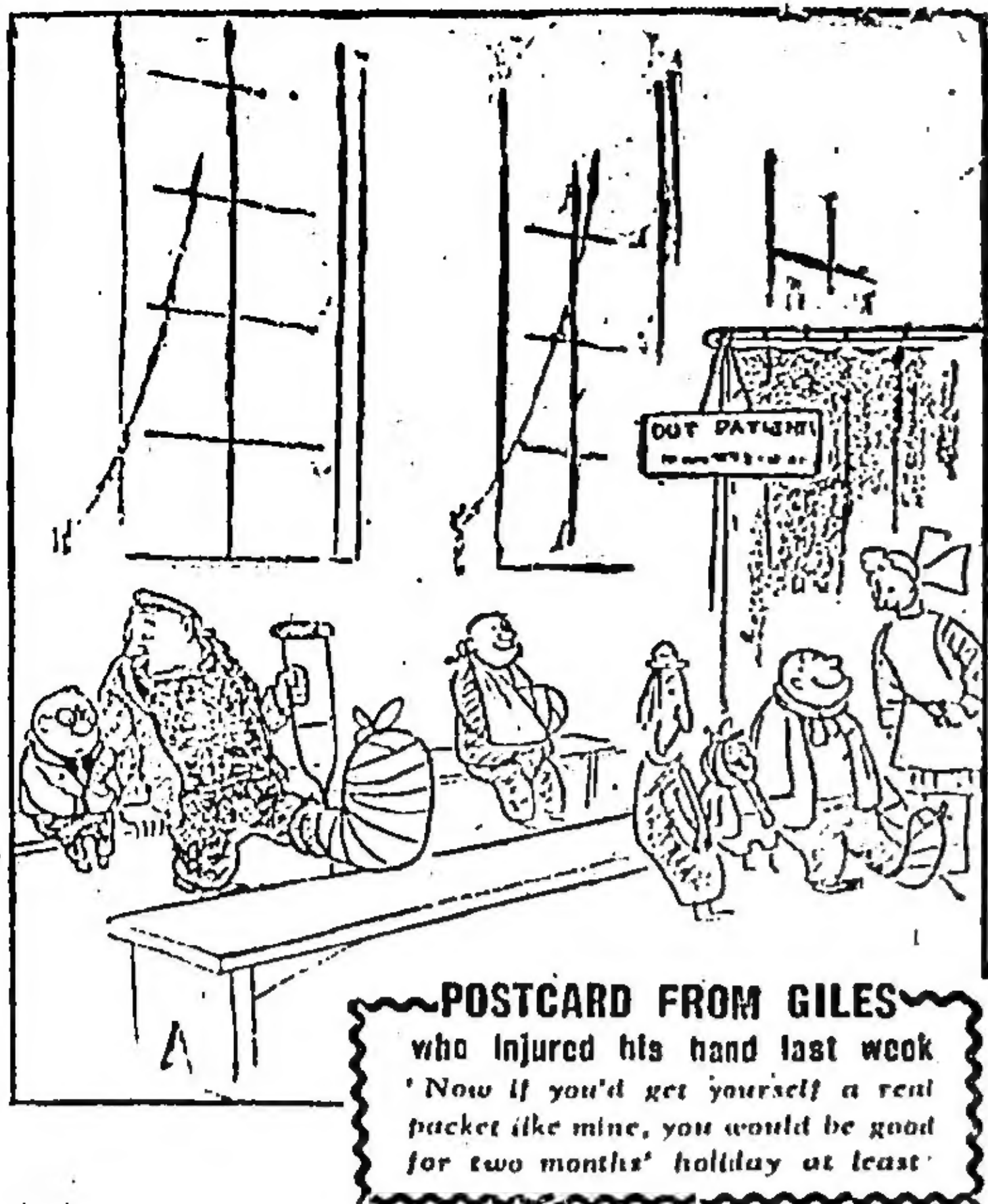
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BBC Overseas Shortwave Programme

SUNDAY, JAN. 25

6.00 WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

6.15 MAINLY FOR WOMEN



'Seven days on a two-day flight.'
W. J. BROWN, MP, finds a reason—

Why our airlines lose money

THE overall loss on the first year's working of Britain's State-owned Airline Corporation is more than ten million pounds. This article may help to explain why.

The direct journey to Jamaica by sea takes from 12 to 16 days according to type of ship and according to the weather. The flight by air is scheduled to take only two days.

But schedules are one thing and practical experience is often another. Here is one passenger's practical experience of a flight from Britain to Jamaica.

ON the Thursday morning before Christmas the passengers were told to be at the London terminus at 9.40 a.m. Their reservations were checked, baggage was weighed, and the usual formalities were completed. The passengers were then, after 2½ hours' delay, driven to Heathrow, from which the plane was due to take off at 11.55, which was long past when they arrived there.

Not 12 noon, you will notice. But 11.55 a.m. precisely. In air travel minutes count—or do they?

JESTS AND JEERS

A better description would be "pat-riotism."

A woman begins by resisting a man's advances, and ends up by blocking his retreat.

Will power has been described as ability to eat one salted peanut.

Overheard at a cocktail party: "Why, he's a perfect gentleman. All you have to do is slap his face once in a while."

Income is something you can't live without—or live within.

A pin-up girl is one who proclaims her charm from the hose-tops.

A football referee likes to have the crowd behind him. But not too close on his heels.

"I prescribe absolute quiet for your husband," said the doctor. "Here's a sleeping powder."

"When do I give it to him?" asked the wife.

"You don't. You take it yourself."

Ultra Violet Rays Fight School Colds

An Illinois grammar school is fighting common colds with ultra violet rays.

John Dunlop, principal of Loucks School, said the rays work. They are supposed to eliminate germs from the air.

Dunlop installed several ray lamps in a class room. He said tests showed the lamps cut absenteeism due to colds by at least 25 percent.

"BANDITS" IS WRONG, THIS IS WAR!

Here in the mountains you find pitched battles—in the Greek style

THIS thing in Greece is war—real, bitter war. The world has been misled by the word "bandit."

Bumping and swerving on one of Europe's worst roads, from Janina to the front, I was back in 1945, or, more appropriately, in winter 1940, when the Greeks were pushing Mussolini's crack troops around in this very district.

Convoys going up to the front were hustling against

convoys coming back: there were dumps along the roadside, advance dressing stations, craters where mines had blown trucks to kingdom come or scattered mules in debris over the countryside.

In imagination, this so-called bandit war has seemed nothing more than a series of cut and runs, with burning villages as the trade mark of success.

In fact, in the saucer-like hollow of Koniza valley, the towering mountain

flung the echoes of pitched battle around with the strangest effects, giving them demonic significance.

The Greek Army offensive, which I watched from an artillery observation post, was as like anything in real war as two pins. There were smoke and the fumes of high explosives, the crackle of rifle and machine-gun fire, the ugly dull slap of mortar shells bursting on the boulder-strewn mountain sides. There was the thin trickle of wounded limping back.

Odd flavour

THE Greeks have known it was real war. It is time that the rest of the world realised it, too. But it is a war with a peculiar Greek flavour.

You meet Athanasios Papiorgiou, white-haired and whiskered, his little black eyes darting from beneath the kepi of his military cap, a survival of the Balkan war of 1911. He lives in the village of Kefalovrisi, Koniza.

Once he was a coach driver; now there are no coaches to drive. He has constituted himself, at 75, a one-man cheerleader, dressed in his tattered uniform from wars long ago.

"I have led Greek armies since the days of King Constantine," he beamed at me. "I am leading this one, too. It may be my last."

You meet Mme. Lika, amazon of innumerable wars. It is nothing to her, in her khaki beret, blouse and shorts without stockings, to sling her pack on her back, and trudge a day or two over the mountains to some lonely army outpost.

"Here she comes," shouted the Greek soldiers when they saw her tumble from her jeep. They came towards her and gave her great smacking kisses with their bearded, mud-stained faces. She hugged them and slapped their backs.

Mme. Lika is a self-appointed "mother of the Greek soldier." She drinks with them, swears with them and, if they want it, goes into battle with them. Nobody asks her for her pass.

Even in the bitterness of this winter fighting in the snow-covered mountains you hear laughter and song, signs of the irrepressible Greek spirit.

But beneath it all there is grim purpose and hatred of the enemy. In this war there is bullet against bullet, knife against knife, shell against shell. There is also something else.

Mixed up with the military traffic along the road there are little groups of men, women, and children. They shiver in the bitter cold. Some of them have ragged bundles tied together with frayed string—the sum of their worldly possessions.

by WALTER LUCAS

"What happened to you?" you ask one group. At first they are shy. Then one man speaks up, then all begin to press round, babbling out their tale.

"The guerrillas came to our village," they say, "and they have burned it down. There is nowhere for us to lay our heads. They have taken from us our beasts of burden, the sheep that browsed in our valleys, and our stocks of food."

"Why did they do that?" you ask. They shrug their shoulders. "Maybe because our young men who have the strength to fight were unwilling and, turning their backs, fled."

Another group will cluster round. "They burned the house of Stephanos Janou. They put his wife and three little children inside and roasted them alive. Stephanos was a member of our Home Guard; he had a rifle."

Another said: "We fled in terror. Guerrillas brought back three of our young men who had been forcibly conscripted to their army and who had tried to escape. Before our eyes they bent them the whole day until the going down of the sun, and beneath the moon they kicked their lives away with the heels of their boots."

He knows...

BACK in the over-crowded town of Janina nearly 10,000 victims of the terror crowd in disused schools and roofless ruins.

These are the things which the Greek soldier knows when he goes into battle. He knows, too, that his enemy can retreat into the safety of a friendly foreign territory, whence he receives most of his supplies, and where his wounded are taken to hospital.

Shells fall on him while he struggles up rocky mountain slopes to come to hand grips with the rebels. He knows these guns cannot be silenced, because they fire from the protection of international conventions.

He sees no future. When the rebels are routed in the Koniza area, somewhere else they will erupt against Greece over the Yugoslav-Bulgarian, or Albanian borders. There is a deep-down feeling of bitterness in his heart. A hundred times a day he tells you, "Our small country is fighting alone against the Eastern threat to Western democracy."

"We are not fighting 6,000 Greek guerrillas," said Colonel Lasplias, chief staff corps commander and D.S.O. winner in the Italian campaign. "We are fighting two hundred million Slavs. It's your battle as well as ours."

For the Greek this is real war. For the rest of the world it is real war, too.

SIDE GLANCES

By Galbraith



"Yes, the dresses are longer, but a fellow can't help turning to look at those crazy hats!"

WAY IS OPEN FOR BIG TRADE WITH RUSSIA

by Andrew Rothstein

Formerly the London head of Tass, the Soviet news agency

THE statement announcing an Anglo-Soviet agreement on trade and financial relations contained phrases which did not get much attention from the commentators:—

The agreement now reached... constitutes only the first stage in negotiations concerning development of trade between the two countries.

The parties agreed that not later than May 1948 representatives of the two Governments will meet to agree on an extended programme...

The importance of the agreement to us is obvious.

How it will help

Even those who can't hear of any arrangement with the U.S.S.R. without asking: "Where's the catch?" admit that 750,000 tons of barley, oats, and maize in 1948 will help Britain to get more meat, eggs, poultry, and milk.

But the passage quoted shows there is more in it. In 1946 the U.S.S.R. was stricken by drought, while its war-ravaged agriculture was still pulling itself together.

The people didn't starve, but the end of rationing had to be put off a whole year. From the autumn of 1946 onwards, however, determined efforts were made to bring agriculture back to pre-war levels.

The 1947 harvest did in fact prove nearly 60 percent larger.

A change

This was one of the events which made possible the abolition of rationing with a simultaneous heavy cut in prices. The standard of living actually rose, despite the accompanying revaluation of bank deposits, war loan, and hoarded rubles.

But it also brought a significant change in commercial relations. In July, Russia agreed to sell Finland 40,000 tons of grain above the 100,000 tons previously agreed.

In August she undertook to supply Poland with 300,000 tons.

In November, Czechoslovakia secured the promise of 100,000 tons of bread grains and fodder by December 31, and 500,000 tons more by May 1, 1948.

In December, Hungary was allowed to postpone delivery of 60,000 tons of reparations wheat; France was offered 400,000 tons of Soviet wheat (but lost them in the confusion about her treatment of Soviet citizens); and the Anglo-Soviet agreement was signed. Moreover, last summer the Soviet Government offered to step up grain exports to Britain to two million tons a year.

Improvements planned in the U.S.S.R. are to raise total grain output to 127 million tons in 1950, so it is only reasonable to conclude that "developments of trade between our two countries" can in a few years satisfy a substantial proportion of Britain's grain imports from a non-dollar supplier.

Three agreements

There have been three major trade agreements between Britain and the U.S.S.R. The first lasted from 1921 to 1927. Russia was weak, and got practically no credits.

Then from 1927 to 1929 there was no agreement, and Britain was able to sell to Russia only a third of what she bought.

From 1929 to 1933 there was the second trade agreement. The Treasury gave fifty guarantees to British firms selling to Russia—but only as to 60 percent of the value of goods sold.

The firms could not get cash on Soviet bills for the rest of the value, except at fantastic rates (25-30 percent discount), because the big banks were still "blockading the Bolsheviks."

This meant high prices. Soviet imports from Britain consequently continued at a low level.

In 1934 came the third trade agreement; but by now Soviet industry was advancing.

Britain recognised the new situation, and in 1936 a financial credit of £10,000,000 was negotiated to be spent within five years on British manufactures.

Soviet orders were paid for in notes bearing 5½ percent interest, which were accepted by the banks—and British exports to Russia soared, parallel with Soviet output.

Story in figures

This table tells the story:—

Years	Imports from USSR (£ millions)	Exports to USSR (£ millions)
1921-26	89.3	57.2
1927-29	69.1	22.6
1930-33	103.7	33.5
1934-39	110.5	73.4

[Most of the apparent unfavourable balance was covered by direct Soviet expenditure in Great Britain.]

What is the lesson? First and foremost, that the more industrialised the Soviet Union becomes, the better customer it also becomes for British goods.

Imports of productive equipment, metals, raw materials are all acceptable, provided they come on terms affording some financial elbow-room.

A glance at the fourth Five Year Plan (1946-50), with its programme of 48 percent increase over 1940 involving the building or re-equipping of 5,000 large undertakings, will show how big the opportunities are.

There is another pointer. In October 1940, Stalin publicly praised the Soviet-Swedish agreement, signed that month, as "a contribution to the cause of economic co-operation among the nations."

So the inference is that an increased Anglo-Soviet trade can bring with it better relations all round.

Treatment For Head Colds

A U.S. Navy physician claims that he has discovered a treatment that "produces marvellous results" in relieving head colds if taken within a few hours of the onset of the cold.

"Within a half-hour after treatment, all symptoms disappear," Capt. John M. Brewster, of the U. S. Navy Medical Corps, stated.

The treatment is based on Dr. Brewster's theory that a cold is originally an allergic reaction, but that if it is neglected, bacterial complications frequently develop which must be combated with the sulfa drugs and penicillin.

His treatment consists of the anti-histaminic drug—benzhydrol, phenyleno or pyribenzamine—injected by mouth. The drugs, originally developed to combat allergies, also have a powerful sedative effect and made the patient drowsy.

Dr. Brewster emphasised that the treatment was useful only in head colds, and then only if taken immediately after the patient detected the first symptoms.—Associated Press.

Ben Hilton hauls down the Union Jack

Rangoon, Jan. 4. White star shells curved high above Rangoon at 4.20 a.m. today as drums, bells, trumpets, temple gongs, and machine-gun salutes proclaimed the birth of the Republic of Burma.

Its birthplace was a white flagpole at the entrance to the Constituent Assembly Hall in the capital.

There, in a blaze of floodlights, and before the heads of the Burmese Government and services, a Royal Navy Yeoman of Signals, Ben Hilton, of Petersfield, Hants, lowered the Union Jack to make way for the new blue, red and white starred Republican flag.

Then, inside the assembly hall, while a flock of sparrows blinded by the floodlights fluttered above the solemn but gaily dressed Burmese, the new Provisional Government took the oath of office.

As Rangoon rocked, at 85 degrees in the shade, to the thunder of firecrackers tossed about the crammed streets, the Government spent a day of constitution-forming, parading, and swearing-in. Tonight the new-born Republic is growing up.

Its President, the Shan chieftain, Saothahlong of Yawngahwe, has gone through his day's work wearing a

'Five minutes of uproar... and Burma becomes a Republic...'

By SYDNEY SMITH

yellow silk headscarf, a sparkling silver-embroidered white silk jacket, and a yellow silk, gold-embroidered skirt.

If the President's clothes were gaudy, his address to parliament was a plain piece of modern politics. "The unrelenting policy," he said, "will be to establish the Union of Burma as a Socialist State, which means the elimination of capitalism, and ownership by the people."

Burma will at once seek membership of U.N.O.

Unrehearsed...

It all went off like a stage gala show. First, five minutes of magnificent uproar by order, then the speeches, and far into the evening, the rockets.

There has only one great unplanned moment. It came when Sir Hubert Rance, after hauling down his Governor's standard at Government

House, was about to step aboard the Ceylon-bound cruiser Birmingham with Lady Rance.

As they moved among Burmese officials and their families saying good-bye, Lady Rance hurriedly covered her tears with huge sunglasses. Her husband only just blinked his back.

But the immaculate, petal-like little Burmese women, whose politician husbands had persuaded us to go, had a jolly good cry and ruined their rice-powder complexion.

Dead rulers

MAYBE it did not mean very much. As the Birmingham pulled out, its Royal Marines band blaring "Auld Lang Syne" and Sir Hubert and his wife waving shorewards from the stern, where the White Ensign billowed over the Irrawaddy, a staff officer of the new Burma Army said to me: "Well, you can be proud of a departure like that."

What now? The real rulers of Burma are not the brilliantly dressed leaders we saw and heard today, but a Cabinet of dead men.

Alive, these men—General U Aung San, and four of his Cabinet—were the winners of Burma's independence. Since July 19 last year, when they were murdered as they sat in the council chamber, their bodies have lain in state.

EVERY SATURDAY

WOMANSENSE

DESERTED WIVES

PARTY PIECE

FULL-PAGE FEATURE

WORDS FAIL US IN TRYING
TO DESCRIBE THE WORLD'S
PERFECT LIPSTICK

FEW among the general public realise the hard lot of the deserted wife.

It is true that the law gives her certain rights. Thus a magistrate's domestic court can award her weekly sums, to be paid by the husband, up to £2 and an additional ten shillings for each child.

Such an order can be made in cases of desertion, persistent cruelty, wilful refusal to maintain the home and adultery.

Of course, these amounts are too low; the recent report of the Denning Committee has recommended a substantial increase. Such an increase has long been overdue; the £2 was fixed in 1895 and the 10s. in 1920.

The cost of living has soared since then and the fact that despite repeated appeals from the Magistrates' Association, these sums have not been raised is no credit to successive Home Secretaries.

Fresh Trouble

BUT the making of an order by a court is only too frequently the beginning of fresh trouble. So is the making of a voluntary deed of separation by the parties without resorting to a court. For there is no certainty, and there can be none, that the money will be regularly paid.

This aspect of matrimonial trouble has received too little attention. I have often seen wives leave a domestic court with a look of triumph on their faces; they have got their orders. But I have equally often wondered whether they really have any idea of the fresh troubles that these orders will bring to them. I doubt if any cases that magistrates have to deal with are more pathetic than those where wives come to court seeking the payment of arrears on these orders.

No action can be taken by the wife until the arrears have amounted to two weeks' money. Then there has to be delay while the summons is being served upon the husband. All this time the wife may be without money from the husband. This fact alone causes acute distress in many cases. I have seen women in tears when they learn that there is still no money for them.

The summons may not have been served; perhaps the husband has moved, or even changed his name. Or he may be genuinely unable to pay. Or he may be living with another woman and have children by her. Or he may just be defiant in his refusal to pay.

Whatever the reason, the wife's lot is then a hard one.

If, when the husband is in court, it is found that he is guilty of wilfully refusing to pay or that his failure to pay was "culpable," he may be sent to prison. But though that may sometimes give temporary satisfaction to the wife, it produces no money for her.

Account Bare

OFTEN a wife in this situation is on poor law relief and is being pressed to get some money from her husband. In such cases one can understand if she feels that she is between the devil and the deep blue sea.

Week by week many wives whose orders are not being paid spend their pennies on bus or tram rides to the court, only to be told by the ever-courteous clerks in what is called the Periodical Payments Department that her account is bare.

Many wives who have divorced their husbands are in an even worse plight. For no court other than the High Court can enforce maintenance payments ordered by the High Court.

To wage-earners' wives the High Court is almost as far away as Heaven.

This is one of the evils that the Denning Committee propose to put right. Unfortunately the solution that they have proposed must prove abortive.

by **CLAUD MULLINS**

former Metropolitan magistrate

I suggested to the Committee that in these cases magistrates' courts should be allowed to enforce payment, but the Committee proposed the county court, where delays occur and fees have to be paid. This is very regrettable.

Lone Husbands

THE unhappy lot of separated husbands must not be ignored. Some of them fully deserve all that comes to them. So do some of the wives.

But many of these husbands are quite decent men. Whatever their merits, they cannot enjoy being brought to court from time to time in order that their means may be investigated.

I have often seen a worn-out look on their faces, an expression that told that life is too hard for them. But I have far more often seen this look in the faces of wives.

With some of these husbands severity is necessary, especially with those who seem to prefer any kind of life to hard and honest work. (And there are more of these men than the politicians care to think about.)

Hardships

WHEN dealing with these cases of arrears, I have often wondered whether when these marriages were breaking, the parties ever thought of the awful troubles that can follow after an order of a court.

I have frequently warned both parties of the hardships of life apart,

and of the almost inevitable hardships to the children.

Sometimes wife and husband have asked for time to think things over. When this happens the probation officers (or court friends, as I prefer to call them for matrimonial work) do all they can to help the parties, often with great success. But many wives or husbands persisted and possibly passed into the sorry ranks of those who find bitter trouble when orders of the court are not carried out. Some wives seem to think that an order of their husbands is like one on the Bank of England.

The bedrock fact is that no wage-earner who has children by his marriage is in a position to maintain two homes; and nowadays there is scarcely a man in the kingdom who is able to indulge in this folly and at the same time do justice to all those who have a right to be maintained by him.

Our wage system, like so much in this world, is based on monopoly, the union for life of a husband and a wife.

Still Hope

ALL that I have written here points to the pressing need that social help should be available for all husbands and wives whose marriages threaten to break up, whether the grim prospect is divorce in the High Court or separation in a magistrate's court.

The report of the Denning Committee contains these words: "The prospects of reconciliation are much more favourable in the early stages of marital disharmony than in the later stages. At that stage both parties are likely to be willing to co-operate in an effort to save the marriage."

This is perfectly true. But even just before the breaking point there is still hope and husbands and wives would be wise to seek help from a probation officer or from a marriage guidance organisation.

Life after separation or divorce can be so sordid and difficult. It should never be faced until help has been obtained and proved unable to bring about a healing.



LAST-MINUTE invitations to parties may put a strain on the wardrobe.

Quick and successful last-minute outfit (1) is a print summer frock worn over a black evening skirt—or a any evening dress old enough for dyeing—and gathered, front or back, in a bustle effect over the hips.

Above are New Look alternatives for the strapless evening gown. The bodice (2) is bordered with fur; you can buy real or imitation fur strips at most big stores. Worn with the strapless decolletage (3) is

a stole of black net lightly sewn with sequins or fine beads.

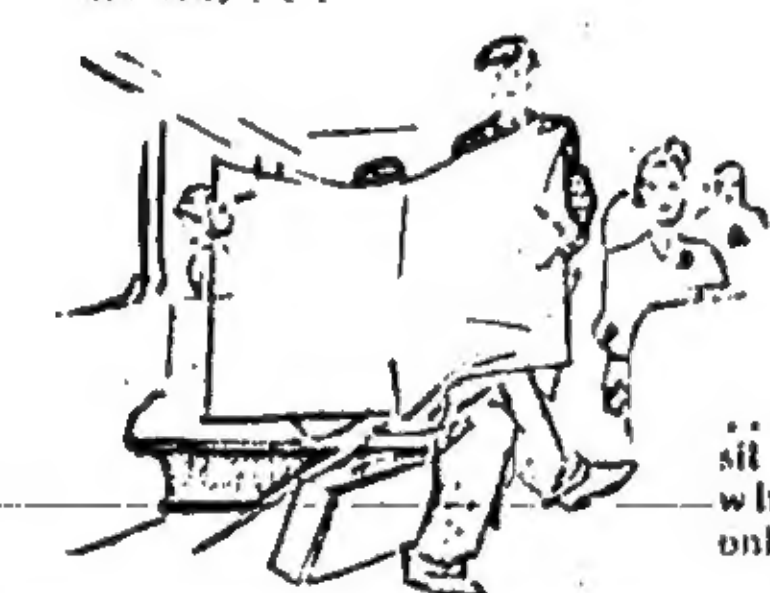
Below are two jackets that will turn an old evening dress into an up-to-date dinner dress. The snug little basqued jacket (4) can be quilted out of an old frock, or material ready quilted can be bought by the yard. A quilted bedjacket dyed black and embroidered could be used as an evening jacket. Uncouped felt is used for the brief three-quarter sleeved bolero (5), in a bright colour braided in black, or black felt braided in gold or silver. A simple scroll pattern, as sketched, can give the effect of a yoke and is the easiest to carry out.

PROMPTED by the sketches of the things "I wish women wouldn't do..." readers have provided the ammunition for this answer. They've called them...



"I WISH MEN WOULDN'T be too clever about not being overcharged on the bill..."

MANIMOSITIES
... by ROBB



"WOULDN'T sit in two seats when they've only paid for one..."



"WOULDN'T block out my view of the screen by letting their hearts rule their heads..."



"I WISH MEN WOULDN'T say 'For heaven's sake don't doll yourself up'—and devote their time to the girl who has..."

Omelette Variations

A VARIETY of omelettes may be made using the plain method and the same proportion of eggs and butter, with additional ingredients, all of which excepting herbs, must be cooked before they are added.

These ingredients are added (a) either to the beaten eggs previous to cooking the omelette; (b) or as a filling after it is cooked.

BRAINS OMELETTE

Cut one set skinned cooked lamb or sheep brains into small pieces, and sauté in a dessertspoon heated butter for a few minutes. Add 1/2 cup thick white sauce. Season with salt, pepper, a dessertspoon chopped parsley, and add it to a plain omelette mixture as it sets in the pan. Fold over or roll the mixture, and serve as plain omelette.

KIDNEY OMELETTE

Wash and dry a soaked lamb or sheep kidney. Remove the skin and core, cut kidney into dice, and sauté in a dessertspoon heated butter for 10 to 12 minutes. Season with salt, pepper, a pinch of mustard, grated nutmeg, and 1 teaspoon chopped parsley. Prepare a plain omelette, and place the hot kidney mixture in the centre of the egg mixture, then fold over or roll it up. Brown for a few seconds, and serve on a hot dish garnished with parsley sprigs.

SAVORY OMELETTE

Add 1 teaspoon finely powdered mixed sweet herbs, 1 teaspoon chopped parsley, salt and pepper, or a little celery salt, to the beaten eggs, or sprinkle the herbs over the surface of the beaten egg mixture while it is cooking.

HAM OMELETTE

Mince or finely chop 2 ounces cooked ham and sprinkle over the surface while the omelette is cooking.

Mothers in Factories? No!

THE ARCHBISHOP OF WESTMINSTER
SPEAKS ON THE NEED OF WOMEN IN THE HOME

WHAT is this crisis? Fuel? Power? Finance? Weather? No. These are serious and annoying, but the crisis is that morality and family life in England are endangered.

Why do I say this? There is little or no religion among thousands of the people of this country. By this I do not mean that there is no religious sense. The heart of man is restless without God. But for many years our clever people have been saying that it does not matter what we believe: it does not matter whether we worship God; religious beliefs, they say, are subject to constant change.

Many of the nation's children have been brought up without any knowledge of Christ our Lord. It is impossible to have a religion without a creed, and without a creed it is impossible to have a moral code. During Lent we think of the sufferings and death on the Cross of the Son of God made Man. The Crucifixion shocked His disciples and shocked the world. It was meant to shock and revolutionize a world which had rejected God for Mammon. During Lent we should devote ourselves to re-examining our relations with God. It is a time to bring God back into every detail of our daily life and action. In brief, to live for Him.

NOW, if we abandon God and religion we become less than human. We become beasts. This is no exaggeration. The crimes committed by Nazis in the concentration camps, and many crimes still being committed in Eastern Europe are inhuman and beastly.

In England, through the abandonment of God and religion, morality has declined. I need only point to the ever-increasing number of divorces, murders, suicides and robberies. This is a return to the law of the jungle.

We are shocked by the wave of juvenile delinquency. We are shocked by murders committed by those in their teens. If such crimes continue and increase, England then is doomed. If England falls, then Europe falls with her.

The Government have just published a White Paper on the man-power shortage. Yet there are thousands of our former Allies, the Poles, who for months have been wasting their time in camps in this country.

I notice particularly the call to women to re-enter industry. I hope that this does not mean an invitation to mothers to go to work and to abandon the care of home and children. It is this crisis of woman-power in which I am especially interested. The finest contribution a mother can make both to God and to the nation is the care and upbringing of her children. Motherhood is not only woman's natural vocation, it is her finest vocation.

If we want to restore Christian life to our country we must begin with the home. Men may build houses, but women build the homes. The women, the mothers in the home, hold the key to England's greatness. In other words, England's greatness depends upon the home of England, the family life of England.

A mother's contribution in this crisis and in all future crises is the care she has of her home, her husband and her children. It depends upon her whether there is love, warmth, friendliness and cleanliness in the home. Above all, it will depend upon the mother whether God reigns in that home and whether her

children will become little pagans or good Christians, and if good Christians, then good citizens filled with ideals of service for others.

THE good mother at home performs a more valuable and more important service than the statesman or the miner or the bricklayer. Her work is unspectacular so that all too often it passes without notice. But to a large extent the mothers of England have it in their power to build up Christian family life, to close the divorce court and stem juvenile delinquency.

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Mince or finely chop 2 ounces cooked ham and sprinkle over the surface while the omelette is cooking.

PAUL HOLT

Thinking Aloud

I WAS delighted, only the other day, to accept an invitation from Harry the Mole to go racing. It was all done in style.

Harry had hired one of those Motor School "L" cars (Basic Sufferers: Brush Up On Your Driving!), and Harry's cheerful girl friend, Marie Perhaps, sat in the back seat with me and put a rug over my knees in a most friendly fashion. We had a bottle or two of Chateau Yquem, a venison party in the boot, and a good thing for the third race.

What could have been better?

By the time our good thing in the third had walked home (we knew that the favourite was going to have a go for the National and therefore wasn't trying now, so as not to incur a penalty) we were in a fairly merry mood. Rudy Samba was there and Jo-Jo Likewise, and they had a flask and a good thing for the last race.

★ ★ ★

THEN things began to happen.

The loudspeaker announced an objection to our winner. Quick as a flash Harry and Rudy and Jo-Jo began scurrying around stooping to retrieve discarded tote place tickets. (I remember it was Harry, the Master Mind, who thought of this.) Nobody else having reasoned that this animal would now come into place money).

Marie Perhaps, who loathes stooping in a two-way stretch, led me to the bar, where I gave up two large Scotchies in honour of her birthday. Just then the loudspeaker announced that a certain citizen racer had dropped a roll of folding money, and would the finder return it to the clerk of the course.

This, as you can imagine, aroused a considerable burst of mirth—in which Mickey, the course detective, gleefully joined.

But Harry did not laugh; the eyes of the Mole were shining. I saw him whisper to Rudy and Jo-Jo and off they went.

Working really hard, they had collected, by gaining the confidence of many trusting citizens, as much as £100 in five minutes. And when they went to the clerk of the course, they found there was a dear old widow woman waiting there to claim it.

Harry and Jo-Jo and Rudy were all congratulated on their honesty, while Marie and I had another little drink.

★ ★ ★

HERE came the tricky bit, but Harry managed it superbly. Within another five minutes the old widow woman, tears streaming down her wrinkled cheeks in great runs, beckons, burns and turns of gratitude, had consented to put the whole roll on our sure thing for the last race. The winnings were all to go to her son, just invalided out of the Navy.

She insisted on putting the money on herself, standing there in the queue quite alone, brave but forlorn as you might say.

I heard Harry insisting that he should collect her winnings for her. This was so like Harry.

Mickey, the detective, was keeping a very close eye on this, and I could see that all this philanthropy was bothering him no end. The last race began.

It was wonderful. There was our animal right out in front and leaping like Caughoo. He was up to the last obstacle when the others were at the distance.

And then... he refused. We might have known it. A clever horse. He stood there patiently until the second passed the post.

Harry was so mortified he did not even try to find the old lady. I remember wondering, on the way home, whether she really had lost her roll and whether she really had put the roll Harry had rustled up for her on that stone ginger for the last race.

I remember wondering, too, whether she really was a widow woman at all.

There was a curious little smile on Mickey the detective's face when we said goodbye to him.

On the way home Marie Perhaps and I snuggled up and said "Now is the hour" together. Harry the Mole, I thought, was a little quiet. At last he spoke. "I think I've been robbed," he said dolefully.

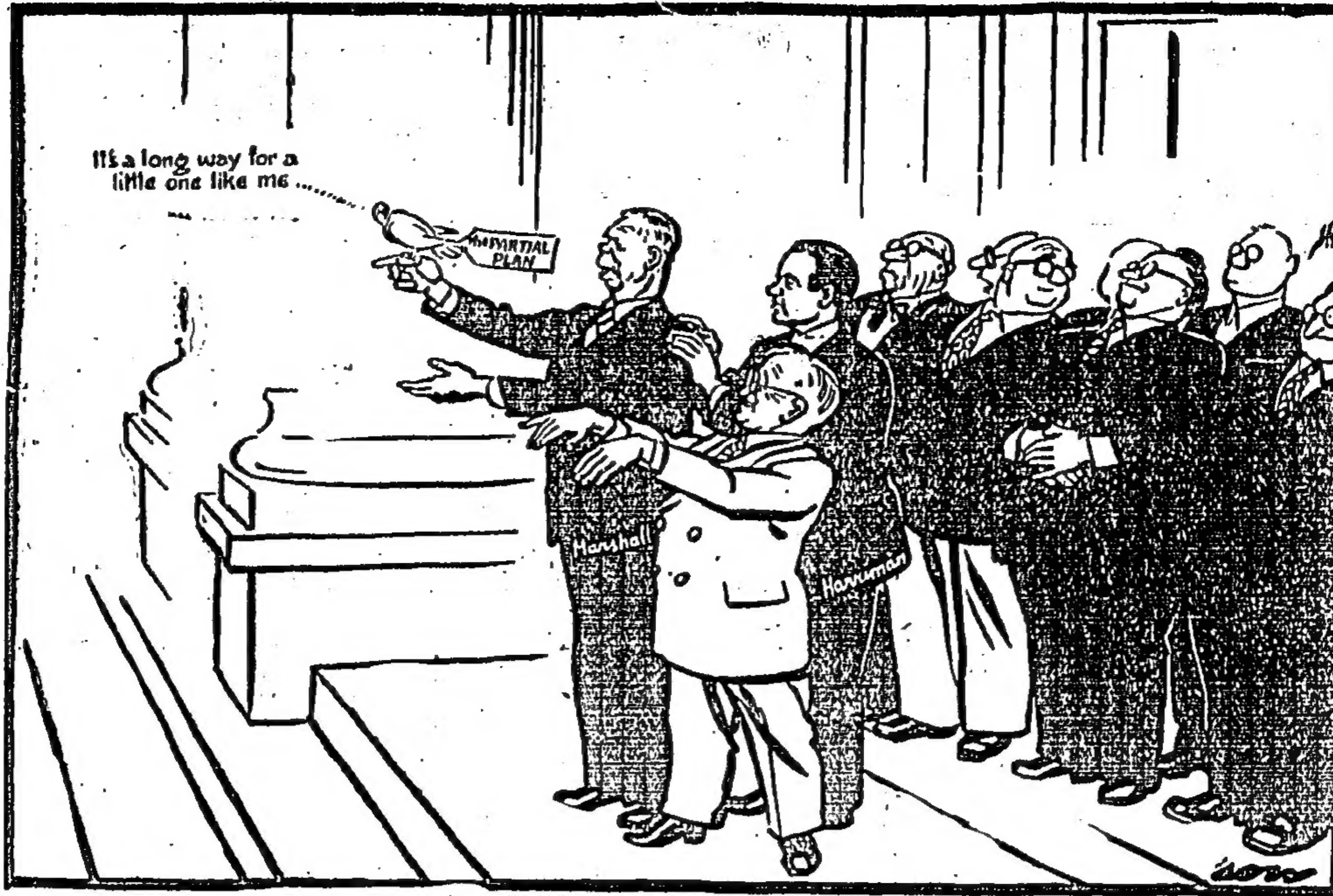
R.S.P.C.A. note

A GIRL I know worked on a land throughout the war. She lived in a shed with a coke stove for heating, and she fetched water for washing from the pump and heated it on the stove.

The other day she went back to the farm and, for sentiment's sake, walked down the lane to her little shed. There were electric light and electric heating. There were running water and a fan, a wider window, and a real lock on the door.

"Lucky girl," said my friend. "This is a cowshed now," said the farmer jovially.

"Move over, Daisy," said my friend.



TEST FLIGHT

(Copyright in All Countries)

EVEN GREAT MEN GROW TOO OLD

by JOHN GORDON

WHAT is the greatest peril facing us as a nation? That a powerful enemy should tumble us in the dust, wrest our power, possessions, and freedom from us, and reduce us to serfdom or something akin to it.

We laugh at the idea—because it has never yet happened. But one day it may happen. One day we may lose the last battle in a war as we inevitably lose the first.

Have you ever thought why we start our wars with a series of disasters?

The reason is simple. After every victorious war we leave the men who won it to prepare us for the next.

What is the result? They prepare us for the sort of war they won. They look back instead of forward.

The consequence is that we very nearly touch the bottom before we triumph. We went into the 1914 war with an Army organised by Boer War experts to fight the Boer War all over again.

We forced high-explosive shells, tanks, and aeroplanes upon these gentry, who resented their arrival. Eventually, after replacing them, we won the war after it had lasted twice as long as it ought to have done, cost us so much money that we never recovered our economic stability, and put the flower of a generation of our manhood into premature graves.

THE LESSON We did not learn

DID we learn our lesson? Not at all.

The machine for the 1939 war was shaped by the experts who had won the 1914 war. Our infantry was still thinking of trenches when it went to France.

A new theory and new methods of war had been evolved in the 20 years between the wars.

But our "experts" were still in the pre-tank, pre-aeroplane, and pre-parachutist age.

What was the result? Dunkirk, the fall of Europe, and very nearly the fall of Britain.

True, the aeroplane saved us from complete extinction.

The Air Ministry, being a young Service, and consequently less hidebound by tradition than the others, had managed to provide us with a tiny but reasonably efficient Air Force.

But even the Air Ministry would have failed us had not the production of aeroplanes been taken out of its hands and speeded up with a rapidity that left the blimps of that Ministry a little dizzy and more than a little resentful.

OUR FOLLY What it cost us

WE moved from disaster to disaster until the 1914 relics had been put on the shelf and new men with more modern minds put in their places.

Again, what was the consequence of our folly? The war lasted years longer than it should have done, and cost us so much money that it ruined us.

There is indeed a case for argument that had we been properly prepared, the war would never have come at all.

One nation does not attack another unless it feels certain of victory. The temptation that weighs the scales against you is to be so ill-prepared that you look to be "easy meat."

That is the condition we were in in 1914 and 1939. It is the condition we shall be in ten or 15 years hence, when the next war may come, if we go on repeating the old folly.

How can we avoid it? I think we should make a rule now that every Service chief over 50 years of age is replaced by a younger man within a year.

No man over 50 today can be expected to take an active part in any future war. And few men over 50 today should play any part in the shaping of the machine with which the next war will have to be fought, because the tradition into which they were born, and in which they were trained will be obsolete by the time that war comes.

To say that is no disparagement of the men in the high posts today. Their achievements in the last war were magnificent.

The record of all of them is shot with gleams of glory. Some won immortal fame. All deserve well of their country.

We loaded them with well-won honours. It would have been better perhaps if we had heaped a certain measure of wealth upon them as well to enable them to quit their posts and carry their new honours with ease and dignity, but unfortunately we had a touch of meanness at that moment.

It was the beginning of the great scramble of the boys for the jobs, and they didn't happen to be the right sort of boys in the eyes of those who were allotting the jobs.

Because we withheld the necessary money we made it difficult for these great war leaders to retire. We should be wise now to think again and make it easy.

The time has come when in the interests of the nation's safety a decade ahead they should be moved. But they ought to be superannuated upon the most generous basis.

NEXT WAR

Boffins, not Blimps

IN the final stage of the last war the technique of war suddenly changed fundamentally.

Armies, air forces and navies as we know them today are now largely obsolete. The war of the future will be an affair of scientists and chemists—not of soldiers, sailors and airmen as we have known them.

The future fighting force may have to be shaped not in the Admiralty, the War Office, or the Air Ministry but in the universities, the laboratories, and the technical colleges.

We may indeed have reached the day when we must choose for the Board of Admiralty, the Army Council, and the Air Council men with degrees for scientific knowledge rather than men with decorations for bravery.

We must be ready to begin the next war with "Boffins" in control, not "Blimps."

It is the scientists who will find an answer to the atomic menace, not the soldier. It is the scientist who will turn pass from defence to offence again, not the admiral, the general, and the air-marshal trained on the old drill books.

A scientific fighting force is our only insurance against war, and our only security in it.

TOO OLD DOGS To learn new tricks

MOST of our admirals today are approaching 60 years of age or over. I, led by the First Sea Lord, Sir John Cunningham, aged 62.

WAS ANYTHING EVER MORE GILBERTIAN?

—By "Candidus"—

I HAVE purposely refrained from commenting upon the Kowloon City affair, because I feel that with the passing of days, the Chinese Government would appreciate the utter foolishness of allowing lawlessness to assume an interpretation of legality. I had expected the good sense of China's statesmen to indicate in no uncertain terms that the defiance of the laws of a friendly state, by irresponsible Chinese agitators, could not be tolerated. Like many others of all nationalities, I am disappointed. The absurdity of the affair! That it should be invested with a pseudo-national importance is by no means flattering to Chinese officialdom.

One is forced to the conclusion that there is more behind the scene than the world knows, and that China is either unable or unwilling to rebuke those who refuse to conform to international ethics. There are so many contradictory aspects which support the above conclusion.

In his book, "Singapore and After," Lord Strabolgi reveals that Generalissimo Chiang Kai-shek offered to send us ten divisions of trained soldiers to hold the Kowloon mainland against the Japanese, (unfortunately, we had to arm them, and at the time were unable to do so). Of course, I am accepting Lord Strabolgi's word that the offer was made. Here was an offer to assist in the retention of Hongkong, China doubtless preferring to see the British flag in preference to the Rising Sun of Japan. There was no silly quibble in those days as to the rights of jurisdiction over Kowloon City; and, moreover, there never has been in the history of the Colony.

I SPEAK with a very close regard for China and things Chinese, and it is because of this regard that I am horrified that such a scene as was witnessed on Shamnoon could have been possible. The sub-

versive and lawless rubble of that day, and their own temporary and empty triumph, merely shamed a nation so very recently elevated to the position of one of the five big powers of the world. What can the world think?

It is unbelievable that the Chinese Government, if it really has the well-being of its great country at heart, can tolerate insults to a friendly power. Do the many friendly hands held out mean nothing? Unfortunately, during the last two years we have witnessed so many unexplainable actions which seem deliberately calculated to spurn foreign friendship, and yet it is too obviously unwise for China to develop a policy of selfishness and isolation. Tolerance and respect are attributes mutually desirable in the conduct of international affairs today, and yet these two words appear to have no meaning in some quarters. To inflame students and to incite them to violence is a major crime, and yet we see various youth organisations turning young people away from their studies to join lawless agitators. Little can these youths know the incalculable harm they do their country at the behest of those who prefer chaos to order. It is saddening to feel that China cannot keep her house in order—cannot even control her students, or prevent them from becoming the pawns of the agents of economic and political destruction.

It was a sorry day for China when General Marshall gave up his hope of assisting in the sorely needed rehabilitation after the war had reaped its harvest.

MANY people cannot appreciate the Kowloon City question in its proper perspective or true significance. Many probably think of a city equal to any of the world's smaller cities. Little do they realise that the total area of land, plus whatever bridges and "motor-

ways" which may compose the "city," would, if valued, probably not reach one tenth of the price of the Empire State Building in New York, or any other sizable building in any other country. Its realisable value to Hongkong is, at the most, a few hundred Hongkong dollars per month—and yet, this very insignificant little backwash has assumed an importance of the first magnitude. Was anything ever more Gilbertian?

I should like to see a commission appointed by the United Nations sent out to investigate the "great crisis," and to know that their terms of reference made it necessary for them to hold their sessions in Kowloon City. I should like to accompany them on their first visit to the little squalor patch termed a "city" and then observe their utter confusion and bewilderment when they arrive on the scene.

—But what a silly time to start a year, anyway!

ABOUT this time of year you may have noticed a general tendency to put the date wrong on letters and cheques—a silent protest, perhaps, at starting a new year in the dead of winter.

When you come to think of it, why should the new year begin in January? It isn't natural. There is nothing holy or auspicious about it. The sun, moon and stars are not in any particular juxtaposition. It isn't even a particularly nice month.

Now if the new year began on December 21 there might be some point to it, because that is the shortest day. Or, better still, March 21, because that is the spring equinox when, for the first time since the autumn, the day is as long as the night. But the only thing that distinguishes January 1 from any other winter day is the number of Scotsmen with hangovers.

At one time the new year did begin in March. That's how September got its name (septem—Latin for seven). October, November and December were named in the same way (Latin: octo, 8; novem, 9; decem, 10).

Extra months

THAT was in the old Roman calendar, which had only ten months or moons. It didn't work well, because ten lunar months make 295 days and the solar year has a little over 365 days.

So the Romans invented January and February and tacked them on after December to make the year nearer to the right length.

January was named after the twin pagan gods Janus and Janus. They were peaceful fellows, and it was hoped that their presence in the calendar would offset the warlike influence of Mars, who had given his name and some of his habits to March.

Nobody really knows how January got switched from 11th place to first. It was one of those

by **BERNARD WICKSTEED**

things that just happened and didn't get into the papers.

A theory is that it was, done by Julius Caesar. He made many changes in the calendar and renamed July after himself. The suggestion is that he wanted to start the year on its shortest day, but people objected and said it ought to begin with a new moon as it always had done.

I don't know how true this is, but astronomers have checked up and found that there was a new moon on January 1 in the year B.C. 45, when Caesar made his reforms.

Leap year

ONE of Caesar's changes was to make every fourth year a leap year, but after his murder, some idiot altered it to every third year, and in no time the calendar was out of hand again.

Augustus Caesar cancelled leap year for eight years, and so put it right, and then, like Julius, claimed his reward by naming one of the months after himself, hence August.

A question of protocol arose over it. August at the time had only 30 days to July's 31. Augustus didn't care for another Caesar having a longer month than he, so he took a day from September and added it to August, thus putting millions of pounds into the pockets of those scoundrel landlords who charge more in August than they do in September. There ought to be a bust of him on every boarding-house mantelpiece.

Of course, there are plenty of other new years besides ours. The Jews have had theirs. It was on September 15. The Chinese have to wait till February 10, Hindus till May 10.

DAVID LANGDON CARTOON



"Streeter says: Fairies at the bottom of your garden—spray with D.D.T."

A man who died for the lust of Gold



Sir Edward Marshall Hall

And the strange part
Number 13 played
in his fate

by A. E. BOWKER



Mr. Justice Birkett

This is the first of a fascinating new series telling the story of two of the greatest counsel of this century—the late SIR EDWARD MARSHALL HALL, K.C., and SIR NORMAN BIRKETT, famous in history as a judge of the court which tried the leading Nazis at Nuremberg.

Mr. A. E. BOWKER, the author, was clerk to both men in the heyday of their fame, and was behind the scenes with them through the dramatic days.

THE first big murder case in which I was concerned was Sir Edward Marshall Hall was a crime carried out by a scoundrel whose lust for gold was the one governing influence of his life. The medium of death was poisoning, and the chief actor was Frederick Henry Seddon.

I say the chief actor, for there was another person in the dock beside him—his unhappy wife, Margaret Seddon, who was acquitted.

They were jointly tried for the murder of Miss Eliza Mary Barrow on September 14, 1911.

I was in my room one afternoon when the telephone bell rang and a voice said: "My name is Saint, solicitor of— (mentioning a North London address). I would like to call and see you with regard to the defence of Seddon."

I made an appointment with Mr Saint, who called upon me in chambers.

He told me the strength and weakness of the case, and we agreed upon the fee.

In due course Seddon was sent for trial at the Old Bailey. In the meantime, I had seen something of what hard work went on in a murder case where poison was the cause of death.



Mr. A. E. Bowker

I had seen Marshall Hall reading up every detail of previous poisoning cases, especially where arsenic had been used.

Nor was he without the assistance of expert toxicologists, for he had many, many medical friends, and could always rely on their expert aid no matter what the cause of death might be.

What is more, he had a pretty good knowledge of forensic medicine and poisoning himself; so that when it came to questioning and cross-examining expert witnesses there was a glibness and assurance that showed he had mastered every detail of the subject.

Seddon was an insurance agent living at Tollington Park, Holloway. Miss Eliza Barrow was a spinster who went to live with Seddon and his wife, taking with her a little orphan boy named Grant.

When she first went to live there Miss Barrow was worth about £4,000.

Some of her money was invested in leasehold property—a public-house and a barber's shop—and a fair amount was in gold and notes. This was in July 1910.

By September 1911, when she died, all that was left of her possessions were about £10 in cash, and a few odds and ends of personal belongings, probably worth about £15 or £20.

The rest had all passed into the hands of Seddon; stocks, shares, leases, money, and everything else had been "made over" to Seddon by Miss Barrow.

True, he had given her a document in return promising her an annuity of £72, with a further £1 a week for the leases mentioned. But she had not lived long to enjoy her annuity.

It was this, together with the purchase of fly-papers containing arsenic, which provided the prosecution with both the motive for and the medium of the crime.

SEDDON'S ERROR

Of Seddon's culpability there can be no doubt, for on the day of Miss Barrow's death he went to the undertaker, told him that all that was left to pay the funeral expenses and the doctor's fee was £4 10s.

He bargained with the undertaker, had his ledger buried in a pauper's grave, and took 12s. 6d. by way of commission on the deal. Another fatal mistake he made was to refrain from telling Miss Barrow's relatives of her death, and it was not till September 20, four days after the funeral on the 16th, that the Vonderahes, her cousins, knew that Miss Barrow was dead.

Even so they did not learn it from Seddon, although Seddon declared that he had written on the 14th. That letter was never received.

Naturally, Mr Vonderahes tried to see Seddon, but the latter had gone for a holiday, and it was not until October that the two men met and the cousin's suspicions were aroused.

He notified the authorities, and inquiries were made.

BODY EXHUMED

As a result of the information laid by Mr Vonderahes, the body of Miss Barrow was exhumed, the organs submitted to examination by Dr Spilsbury and Dr Wilcox, and Mr and Mrs Seddon were arrested.

It had been discovered that Mrs Seddon had been in the habit of changing five-pound notes for sovereigns at various shops, at times signing them with a false name.

Needless to say, it was on the medical evidence that Marshall Hall concentrated the heavy runs of his cross-examination.

Time and time again he challenged the acknowledged experts on the question of the tests they had made with regard to arsenical poisoning.

At times he put a question which brought an admission that one witness "did not know." As for example, when cross-examining Dr Spilsbury, he asked: "Is it a scientific fact that if there is any poison in the body at the time of burial it does not matter how you bury the body there is a tendency for that poison to gravitate to the left-side organs?"

"I did not know that," was the reply. "You yourself did not make any of the tests; you were telling us what Dr Wilcox told you?"

A BAD WITNESS

Or, as in the case of the cross-examination of Dr Wilcox:

"Now supposing a person was taking large, but safe, medicinal doses continuously for a period extending over months, and even possibly a year, that would not necessarily produce arsenical poisoning?"

"No, not necessarily. It would depend upon the patient. Seddon depended entirely on the medical evidence. I have always felt that Marshall Hall would have secured an acquittal by the very daring and skilful manner in which he handled the expert witnesses.

But it did not. There was a wealth of circumstantial evidence, ably marshalled and put in the scales against him.

Then there was Seddon himself. A bad witness in spite of his gift of phrasing and ready answer.

He was not ready, too facile, and it was not long before the deadly incisive cross-examination wrung from him the admissions that proved his guilt.



Seddon

So, in spite of the magnificent work done by Marshall Hall, and his brilliant closing speech, lasting over four hours, the jury found Seddon guilty, acquitting his unhappy wife, who, as the evidence showed, was little more than a domestic servant in the Seddon home, thoroughly under the domination of her husband.

CLOSING SCENE

The closing scene was more tensely dramatic than any I have ever witnessed.

How often when the Clerk of the Arrangements addresses the prisoner, "A or B, you stand convicted of wilful murder, have you anything to say why the court should not give you judgment of death according to law?" does one hear a few mumbled words, or even nothing at all—perhaps only a shrug of the shoulders—is seen?

Not Seddon! There was something of the exhibitionist about this man, as there so often is about murderers.

Already his wife had heard the words "Not Guilty."

Before she left the dock Seddon had swept across to her, took her in his arms, and kissed her.

Now it was his turn, and he faced the judge—Mr Justice Bucknill—calmly and unflinchingly. In fact, the condemned man was cooler than the judge himself.

At the end of the Clerk's question Seddon replied firmly, "I have, sir."

I was sitting just underneath the dock, and it seemed as though Seddon was leaning right over my head. Half bent over the front of the dock, he addressed the judge in measured tones, putting forward his arguments, lucidly and logically, criticising the evidence, and even the judge on one occasion.

"I should like to mention, my lord," he said, "that in your summing-up you said there was a time when the wife left me in the room when the will was being prepared."

"I have never been in Miss Barrow's room alone from September 1 till the day of her death."

THE JUDGE

His speech seemed to go on and on for ages, in the highly driven atmosphere of that closely packed court.

It ended on the amazing high pitch of drama which has been so widely written about.

It was just as he declared that the prosecution had failed to "trace" anything to me in the shape of money, which is the great motive suggested by the prosecution in this case, for me to commit this diabolical crime.

"I am not guilty, my lord. If I say more I do not suppose it will make any difference, but if it is the last word I have to speak, I say I am not guilty of the crime for which I stand judged."

Mr Justice Bucknill was deeply affected.

"We both belong to one brotherhood," he said, "but our brotherhood does not encourage crime: it condemns it."

And then—"Try to make peace with your Maker."

"I am at peace," was the prompt, clear answer. Sentence of death was then passed.

The case was taken to the Court of Criminal Appeal, but the appeal was dismissed.

And, in spite of the fact that over 300,000 people signed a petition for reprieve, Seddon was duly hanged.

In Mr Filson Young's admirable book "The Trial of the Seddons" there is an interesting document in the appendix written by Seddon on the eve of his execution.

It shows how the number 13 had been unlucky for him in connection with his case. It begins:

"Miss Barrow came to my house August 1910. Died September 1911. Months 13.

"Took ill September 1. Died September 14. Days 13.

"I arrested December 4. Old Bailey trial March 4. Weeks 13.

"Attended inquest twice. Police court 11 times. Total 13.

"Appeal heard April 1. (13th week in New Year.) 13.

"Grounds of appeal. 13 points of law on appeal paper made by solicitor. 13.

"Reprieve papers sent in by solicitor. April 13."

And so it runs on till the last paragraph:

"I made this out on Good Friday, April 5 and found on reflection that it was just 13 days to date fixed for execution. April 18, 13."

He could have added at least one more item to the list:

"Am to be hanged in 1912. Total 13."

One gets another glimpse of the hypocrisy of this man in the special verse he selected for the memorial card of the dead woman. It reads:

A deceiver is missing and with us no more.

That voice so much loved we hear not again.

Yet we think of you now the same as of yore.

And know you are free from trouble and pain.

After the trial Marshall Hall turned to me in chambers the next day and remarked: "Bowker, I don't think I'll ever take on another murder case. The strain is too great. It takes too much out of one."

I did not say anything, for I knew him so well. I knew that he was a born fighter, knew that he could not resist the lure of any case no matter how great the strain.

And I was right!

ON THE TRUTH

Not all the cases which come into chambers are fraught with such suspense and drama. Some have their amusing side.

During a trial at Manchester I had brought home to me how stupid people can be in failing to tell their legal advisers "the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth."

We went down to defend a young man charged with an indecent assault.

The defence was a complete denial of the assault, and an allegation that the girl and her mother were both of bad character.

Marshall Hall was instructed to cross-examine both women as to their character.

This course of action has certain legal consequences in regard to the laws of evidence. If an accused person attacks the character of the other side, he may if he gives evidence, have his character challenged by opposing counsel, and he can be cross-examined on that issue.

Needless to say, therefore, it is essential that counsel conducting a case should, if instructed to attack the other side, be perfectly certain that his own client's character is beyond reproach.

BY THE WAY

by Beachcomber

Ten million tons of snake (pronounced snake) will be on sale next spring. It tastes like hake.

(News item.)

THE whole position is complicated, according to a Food official, by the fact that so many people call hake hok (pronounced hook) and say it tastes like snake (pronounced snake). Hence the old Durham folk-rhyme.

Mr Strachey, "who has not tasted it," conceiving it to be his duty to say it is palatable and nutritious, says it is palatable and nutritious.

What I have never understood is why we do not import gosh, the flying fish which is pronounced mobo. It is caught in the Bay of Bengal, tastes like plaster however you cook it.

Art

The officials of the National Gallery are, I notice, compelled to confess that the attempts to brighten up the Old Masters have resulted in some pictures gaining or losing features. This explains why Moroni's tailor has two noses to Sir Hudson Lowe's nose. Advanced artists call this making two noses grow where one grew before—or,

We arrived in court about 20 minutes before the case was due, and had a hurried consultation while Marshall Hall was getting into his robes.

Our client appeared to be a very nice fellow in his early 30's.

"I suppose your character is all right," asked Marshall Hall.

"Absolutely," was the uncompromising reply.

"Nothing against you at all?"

"Nothing."

When our client left the room Marshall Hall turned to our instructing solicitor.

"You're sure your man is all right?" he asked to be again assured that he had an absolutely "blameless character."

On this, Marshall Hall, in accordance with his instructions, made a vigorous attack on the character of the complainant and her mother.

Then the defence was opened, and our client of the "blameless character" was called.

He was cross-examined, and it was worth the journey to Manchester just to watch Marshall Hall's face as he listened to the admissions wrung from our paragon of virtue.

NOT SO GOOD

It went something like this:—

"Now then, Mr X, how old are you?"

"Thirty-two."

"How many bastard children have you?"

A pause. "One."

"Will you swear on oath that you have only one bastard child?"

A longer pause. "Two."

"And isn't this"—producing a document—"a summons due to be heard at the police court adjudging you to be the father of a third?"

"Yes."

So much for our client's "blameless character."

In spite of this unexpected denouement, our man was acquitted, but he was not so lucky a few years later when we appeared for him on a charge of perjury committed during the hearing of another affiliation summons against him.

THREE TELEGRAMS

Among the most treasured documents kept by Marshall Hall, right up to the time of his death, were three telegrams that he received at different times from a grateful lady client.

Three times in all he appeared for her on charges of abortion, and three times had she heard the foreman of the jury—after Marshall Hall had made his speech on her behalf—utter the magic words, "Not guilty."

On the first occasion after her acquittal she sent a telegram which reads: "Thank you very much—Daisy."

On the second occasion she wired: "Thank you again, Daisy."

Following her third acquittal the following telegram arrived:—

"For the third and last time, thank you—Daisy."

And so far as I know Daisy was never charged again.

NEXT WEEK

The Strange Case of the Vindictive Nurse

(From "Behind the Bar," by A. E. Bowker, to be published by Staples Press.)

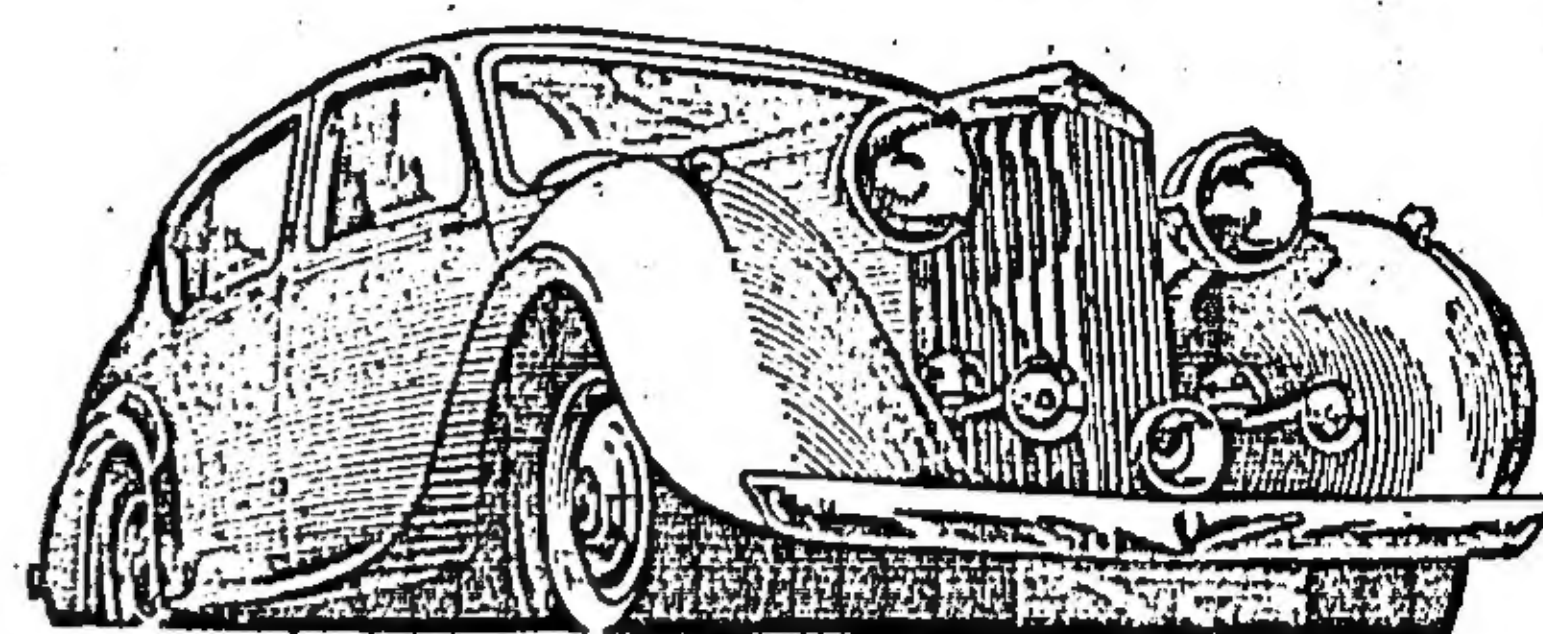


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WHILE STOCK IS COMPLETE

HE CAN PREDICT WHEN PLANES WILL CRASH

Eindhoven, Holland, Jan. 23.—Dutch mathematical analyst A. van Vrede, whose name in translation means "peace," heard, on August 27, 1947, that there had been a severe earthquake in Chile. Before he had even learned whether there were casualties, he said: "Such a tragedy! Aeroplanes will crash this day!"

And they did. Within a few hours a Norwegian flying boat, a British Dakota, and a Cuban transport crashed up.

"It is only logical," sighed Mr van Vrede. "For both air disasters and earth tremors have the same cosmological cause."

Mr van Vrede, 40, who works for a large Philips electronics concern at Eindhoven, has sacrificed all his spare time for two years to the task of proving that earthquakes and air crashes are caused cosmologically.

He collects all available reports of plane crashes, earth tremors and even shipwrecks, which, he suspects, are not uninfluenced by cosmology. This work requires considerable time

and money and not a little patience, for air lines seem extraordinarily lethargic about contributing to his research fund and scientists to whom he has written, have not proven overly enthusiastic.

Getting Data

"Let the scientists come to me, then," snorted Mr van Vrede. "I have proof of my theory—let them try to contradict it!"

Although no one has gone that far, some institutions now are sending him the sort of material he requires—data on the dates, times and places of air crashes and earthquakes.

Mr van Vrede claims that he has accurately predicted disasters which, he said, occurred on June 14 and June 19, 1947. But he is unusually fair-minded about his studies and refuses to make any predictions during the autumn and winter months.

"During those seasons too many secondary causes, such as wind, ice and fog, may contribute to disasters," he said. "I prefer to calculate air accidents in midsummer, so that nobody can say that a plane has crashed due to bad weather."—United Press.

Malay Pearl Divers For Australia

Malayan pearl divers, soon will be back at work off the northwestern Australian coast. Permission has been granted by the Australian Government for 12 divers to enter the country, the first to return since the war.—Associated Press.

SPORTS FEATURES

Week-end football will find selectors of Hongkong's Interport team casting their eyes around for "Probables" and "Possibles." All the senior clubs, with the exception of Kowloon Motor Buses are in action again this week-end; some after a fortnight's rest from competitive soccer.

At Sookunpoo tomorrow afternoon 25th RA meet Kitchee again. These two eleven met in the second round of the Senior Shield competition on the same ground last Saturday. Other attractive week-end matches are the first meetings of the Buffs and St Joseph's (Navy Ground this afternoon) and of Sing Tao and the RAF (Club Ground tomorrow).

Navy Were Given A Nasty Fright In Junior Shield

(BY "SEE TEE")

The draw for the semi-final rounds of the Senior and Junior Shield knock-out competitions, which was made on Tuesday evening, produced four fairly good ties. In each section, however, there is strong indication that the holders will retain their trophies. Sing Tao are strong favourites for the senior shield, just as the Navy's "B" team should again win the junior trophy.

The sailors' equanimity was much upset in their second round tie with Talkoo last Saturday afternoon. They took the field flurried with confidence born of a 5-0 victory over the Talkoo men on the previous Sunday. That impendable, cup-tie football, however, nearly wiped their name off the junior shield for this season. The Navy took the lead after about ten minutes but held it no more than two minutes. Early in the second half Talkoo snatched a goal to give them the lead. The rest of that half was a period of harrowing anxiety for the Navy men. They pinned Talkoo down but they could not kill them. They did anything but score until four minutes from time. One more goal during extra time carried the sailors to victory, although the electric breakaways of the Talkoo forwards were dangerous to the very end.

I went to see the senior shield tie between 25th RA and Kitchee at Sookunpoo last Saturday. Before this game started I watched the rugged match, Navy v. RAF & Police, and I also saw a little of the stirring struggle between the Club and the Army. On a sunny afternoon there is no nicer sports ground in the Colony than Sookunpoo. Last Saturday it was perfect, all the more so because the soccer match which I went there especially to see was played in the best possible spirit.

MEET AGAIN TOMORROW

The RA and Kitchee meet again tomorrow. It will be most interesting to see what conclusions the Antihyemmen have drawn from last week's team changes. They must remember, however, that Kitchee will most likely have Kwok Ying-kee back in the forward line. He is a marksman of no mean ability. I doubt if he would have missed some of the golden chances which fell to Kitchee forwards in the first half of last Saturday's shield tie. Although we are now in the second

half of the local league programme, in which most matches are "returns," two of the most interesting encounters of this week-end are first time meetings. The Buffs and St Joseph's at the Navy Ground this afternoon will be a fine game if the Saints are able to field their best eleven.

The RAF usually play better when the opposition is keenest. They were most unlucky to lose to Kowloon M.B. on December 28 but since then they have had several team changes, mainly through players leaving the Colony. Nevertheless, I expect the Airmen to give Sing Tao a good game at the Club Ground tomorrow.

When South China beat the Navy 1-0 at Causeway Bay in early November, they were just running into their better form, after a disappointing start to the season. The sailors' ever-changing senior league side has come up to scratch with several good performances recently.

CLUB'S OPPORTUNITY

The Inniskillings beat the Club 3-2 in a thrilling early season, mid-week game on October 5. The Irishmen were a stronger eleven than they are these days; they have suffered many team changes in the last three months. The Club will take the field for the return match at Sookunpoo this afternoon hopeful of turning the tables this time.

Kowloon rivalry will reach a high peak at the Boundary-street ground this afternoon, where Kwong Wah will try to avenge their 1-5 beating by Chinese Athletic.

At Caroline Hill tomorrow afternoon Eastern and the Police come to grips again. The Police had a shaky kick off to their season and were out of their own ground by three goals to nothing on October 5. Despite their heavy defeat by Sing Tao in the shield competition last week, this return match with Eastern should be a good, rousing struggle.

"REFEREE TROUBLE"

The keeper of the "Players and Officials only" gate at a big midland club ground hurried up to a director and said "The Referee has arrived with two friends: shall I give them seats?" "Seats?" echoed the director. "By all means. Any referee who has two friends must be looked after."

From here, from there, almost from everywhere you hear abuse of referees. It's so easy and there's little risk of meeting dissent. Here in Hongkong the element is spread out a bit. How glad I was to hear that Tuesday's Hongkong FA Council

WINS MILE IN FINE STYLE



Private Thompson of the Buffs, winning the one mile in the Army Inter-Unit Athletic Meeting held at Caroline Hill stadium on Wednesday.

Annual Race Meeting Ends Today

CHAMPIONS IS CHIEF EVENT

The Hongkong Champions is the feature event which will wind up the annual racing carnival at Happy Valley today. On what promises to be a fast course, a keen race is likely to develop between Norse Queen, winner of all the classic events of last year, and Ataman, the 1948 Derby winner.

Norse Queen should have the edge, for she has speed and stamina for the last quarter, as well as a perfect understanding with her jockey, Donald Black.

Today's card includes eight races confined to non-winners, and ponies following are Kentucky Moon, Queen of Hearts, Fluke Shot, Beckenham, Priority, Big Shot, Sapientia, Shahin, Amigo, Domino, Belle Fontaine, Arlington, Anyway.

meeting quietly to its proper sub-committee, a question on referees. Here at least is a body with a mind unwavering by sensationalism.

Local football owes a lot to some of its referees. Nevertheless, during the course of this season there have been a few outbursts against them. One, in particular, was directed against one of the best referees in the Colony. Quite clearly it was partisan and indicative of a "little learning."

I did not go to the Club Ground last Saturday where there was "referee trouble." I enjoyed a match at Sookunpoo, where the pleasantness of the place and the afternoon was unclouded by acrimony. Since the matter may be sub-judice by the Hongkong FA and I was not there anyway, I will not comment upon it all. Let's leave it to the Referees' Sub-committee, whose duty it is to inquire into such affairs.

I do, however, appeal for balance and proportion in the discussion of such matters. Both these qualities are lacking in folk who refer to referees becoming frayed when several first division players exchange blows freely during the course of a match, but who soundly rebuke one referee when, for all they know, he is no more than temporarily off-colour.



Arelle, Constant Star, Lana, Desert Knight, King of Peace, Ding How, Sibber, Mabuhay, Heroic Lassie, Mona Lisa, Strathnamara, Blue Sky, Pearl River and Rifle.

DISTANCE EVENTS

In addition to the Champions, there are three other long distance events, one over a mile and a half and two over a mile and a quarter.

In the Hongkong Handicap for "B" Class ponies, Rose Emme (153 lbs) though beaten the last time out by Fifth Alarm (153 lbs) and Peggy (152 lbs) over a mile and a quarter, should be able to take revenge for this time the ponies are more evenly weighted. When beating Rose Emme last time, Fifth Alarm carried a mere 138 lbs, but this has now been increased by 15 lbs. I certainly expect to see the revised weights give the race to Rose Emme.

Placed ponies can come from any of the remaining entries.

The Pearce Memorial Cup, in memory of the late Mr T. E. Pearce, is a mile and a quarter race confined to Subscription ponies of 1948.

LANA TO WIN

I think that Lana which ran second in Dominion Day in the Hopeful Stakes over a mile, will win this event, with Desert Knight and King of Peace as principle competitors.

The All Out Stakes brings the annual meeting to an end, and I cannot see how Blue Sky can fail to win. The pony has speed and stamina and will start with the advantage of being opposed only by non-winners. For the minor positions I suggest Pearl River and Rifle.

SPORTS DIARY

The following are the principal sports fixtures for the weekend.

TODAY

Football—1st Division

Caroline Hill.—S. China v. Navy, 4 p.m.
Navy.—Buffs v. St Joseph's, 4 p.m.
Sookunpoo.—Club v. Inniskillings, 4 p.m.
Police.—Chinese Athletic v. Kwong Wah, 4 p.m.

Second Division "A"

Navy.—HQLF v. St Joseph's, 2.30 p.m.
Police.—K. Motor Bus v. RAO, 2.30 p.m.

Second Division "B"

Happy Valley.—Electric v. Sing Tao, 2.30 p.m.
Caroline Hill.—RAMC v. S. China, 2.30 p.m.
Sookunpoo.—REME v. RASC, 2.30 p.m.



Racing

Happy Valley.—Fourth and final day of the Hongkong Jockey Club's annual meeting, 12 noon.

Cricket

KCC.—KCC v. HKCC, 2 p.m.
HKCC.—HKCC "A" v. KCC "A", 2 p.m.
Craigengower.—CCC v. IRC, 2 p.m.
Sookunpoo.—Army v. University, 2 p.m.
King's Park.—Navy v. Recreo, 2 p.m.

Rugby

Club.—Club v. The Rest, 4.15 p.m.

SUNDAY

Football—1st Division

Sookunpoo.—25th RA v. Kitchee, 4 p.m.
Caroline Hill.—Eastern v. Police, 4 p.m.
Club.—Sing Tao v. RAF, 4 p.m.

Second Division "A"

Sookunpoo.—Kitchee v. Police, 2.30 p.m.
Caroline Hill.—S. China v. Talkoo, 2.30 p.m.
Navy.—Eastern v. Dockyard, 4 p.m.
Navy.—Navy v. WD Chinese, 2.30 p.m.

Second Division "B"

Club.—Club v. Signals, 2.30 p.m.

Cricket

KCC.—KCC v. HKCC, 11 a.m.
King's Park.—Dockyard Recreation Club intra-club match, 11 a.m.

Golf

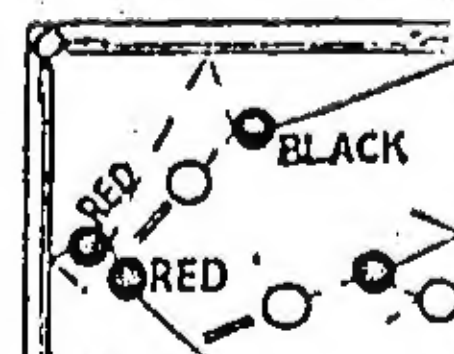
Fantling.—America versus The Rest, first match for the "American Cup."

Softball

(See Softball Chatter for full list of weekend league matches).

Arthur Peall says:

We all know the type of snooker player who will make a sure of the black as he can over if he leaves nothing after pocketing it. He roams seven points in more than he can afford to risk for position, which is a bad thing. Diagram shows the better way. Striker plays at strength to sink black in top pocket and bring cue ball back to top cushion to cannon from one red to another, freeing the two remaining reds. Free cannon stroke is needed to crowd stroke played to make sure of the black at strength, which just goes to the pocket to sink cue ball. Useful cannon for position at billiards. Play a plain ball run through and cannon full on white to cue ball like back for position.



SPORTING SAM



By Reg. Wootton



Blue Ribbon, which won the Chater Cup, ridden by W. K. Shieh, during the annual race meeting, is seen here being led in after the race.—Photo, Mee Cheung.

Softball Chatter By "Spectator"

Top-Notch Tilt Set For Tomorrow

RECREIO VERSUS ST. JOSEPH'S

To get an idea what actually is the local softball standard, to satisfy a curiosity, to see for oneself—uninfluenced by any ballyhooing of "super-duper" playing and "titanic, dramatic struggles"—and to gather an impression of the point the game has gained in its comparative infancy since its introduction here, the League match between the pick of the teams down for decision tomorrow should provide an eye-opening criterion.

The cream of talent concentrated in the Club de Recreo and St. Joseph's, who are sharing the leadership in the championship race, touch off the second round by engaging each other in an anticipated to-the-last-ditch battle. Stan Leonard's Saints suffered their only lapse in first round games by going down to Tony Gonsalves' Hamling Rees, whose solitary defeat was inflicted by the Merry Madcaps.

An unsettled Josephian squad took the field in that opening day fracas against the Rees and succumbed without much of a fight. Tomorrow's return meeting will see now a well-oiled Saint machine comprising: mostly colourful veterans who have not "gone old" and can still dish out a brand of classy ball. Their Murderer's Row of Big Chief Stan himself, brother Dave Leonard, Ramon Castro, Jindoo Hussain and Mighty Mite Arturo Ozorio will be going for Recreo hurler Leo Tavares' "hide." However, Leo, who appears to be above most if not all the pitchers playing, may hold those "murderers" at bay; more so, as he is backed by a most reliable field. Recreo's battering brigade looks weaker but is well-balanced. They are capable of a stratagem or two in this direction to the flashy, but temperamental infield which the Saints possess.

If big names count at all—they didn't last time when St. Joseph's lost—even on form though, the Leonardmen should come off with their revenge. On the other hand, Recreo's Manager Gonsalves and smooth-playing Captain Tony Alver know their stuff well enough to take the best advantage of any break that comes their way, and only one necessarily more—slight Saint lapse may prove disastrous for the latter.

This Rec-Saint feature of the week's bill of fare is to be handled by umpires Doc Molthen, Don Robbins and Bill Woo.

WAHOOS ON TOP

Last week's titbit between the two topdogs in the feminine section resulted in the Wahooes getting the better of the Madcap Aces after a good fight. The losers failed to hold the Wahoo femmes down in the early stages, allowing six runs without reply, which turned out too big an order to nullify. Wahoo fire-works started off in the very first canto as versatile Irene Cassie binged and Fatsy Ribeiro slammed a burner for two leading runs. Costly walks, an error here and an error there, mingled with hits, saw four further tallies by the victors. Girlie Gann got the Madcaps going in the fourth frame as she beat out a two-bagger, then pilfered the third cushion in a wink. Alex Mendonca was next given a "lift" and Girlie scored. Melvie Soares again acquitted herself with willow wielding as she slammed a safety to push in Alex.

The Wahooes never relaxed however. Brand new mentor "Hal" Winglee would have nothing to do with loose playing. His girls were told to hunt to do this, to do that, and the winners pushed further ahead in the next stanza. The Madcaps scored intermittently but could not get near. The final count was nine runs to five.

High-strung Margie Xavier for the Aces hurled her heart out—over-eager at times—to allow only five nannies to the strong-slugging Wahooes. There is a lot of truth in the saying, a walk is as good as a hit, and Margie walked no less than six, which told against her. She struck out six against Terry Noronha's three, but Terry's all-round display counts and contributed much towards her team's success. Swatting honours went to the losers as Girlie Gann and Melvie Soares each slashed out for two safeties. By virtue of their latest victory, Wahooes now stand high and mighty above the rest of the sides. They had only gone down once, while their closest rivals are the Aces and Wildcats, both of whom have lost twice. The pennant chasing in this loop, however, remains open as it is a three-round series.

The tele-tote down the cellar of the League between Madcap Bees and Canadians was a close scramble. The score of five runs to three attests to it. The Canadians came out triumphant, supported by a heavier batting generally and smoother twirling by Maple League head woman Alice Mar. Uile Koo and Jean Lee headed the attack.

Tony Lopes' madcap VRC gang merited went on their way to scalp Don Molthen's Baseballers. It was a win by a margin of nine runs. Victorian Gerry Roza-Pereira batted out the only homer of the fracas, followed in heavy hitting by Gus Rosario, who was good for a three-bagger. A three-in-three trip achievement was enacted by Vecman George Saunders. Police walked-over Rovers, who failed to make an appearance—the last of the "A" Division games down for last week.

OBSERVATION POST

Firebrand hot-corner police Girlie Gann of the Aces cracked a sizzler of a grounder to cut through neatly the whole defence of the "enemy" and the ball rolled speedily out of the park. That was in a recent game. Then she "whirlwinded" her way round the bases for a home run. But oh no! She must go back to third. Ground rules say: "Ball . . . rolling out of the park, batter is entitled to three bases." But, surely, it was quite apparent the ball had the whole field beaten and if not for the smallness of the ball park, she could have scored a homer with hours to spare. Perhaps, that particular rule could be amended. Say, the chief umpire should be called upon to decide if the ball had actually got the better of the fielders and give the runner a home run instead of a "three-bagger." The Association's hard-working General Committee has had meeting after meeting, thrashing out this point and that. And one brought out about and against is fraternising spectators by umpires when a game is in progress. Those "brains" behind the scene have got something there, I reckon, for after all, if an umpire will want to extend his "social calls" right to the diamond, he hadn't better be there. He is apt to forget to follow the play and may give a decision on the spur of the moment which may turn out to be conspicuously boneheaded. And that may cause lots of trouble. I have seen Doc Molthen, as he was umpiring, wielding a bat to "threaten" those unwelcome foot-ballers who sometimes encroach on the field, and in the case of the "socialable" umpire who would rather chat than follow the play, a bit with an angry player swinging it may be directed at that fraternising guy. I don't suppose such an "event" would come to pass—but you'd never know!

Tomorrow's fixtures follow:
Men's "A" Division
C.B.A. ground—9.30 a.m. Rovers v. Philippines, 11.15 a.m. St Joseph's v. Recreo.
Recreo football ground—9.30 a.m. Madcap v. I.K.K.C. 2.30 p.m. South China v. Canadians.
Police ground, Boundary Street—10.30 a.m. Police v. V.R.C.
Women's League
C.B.A. ground—2.30 p.m. Wildcats v. Madcap Bees.

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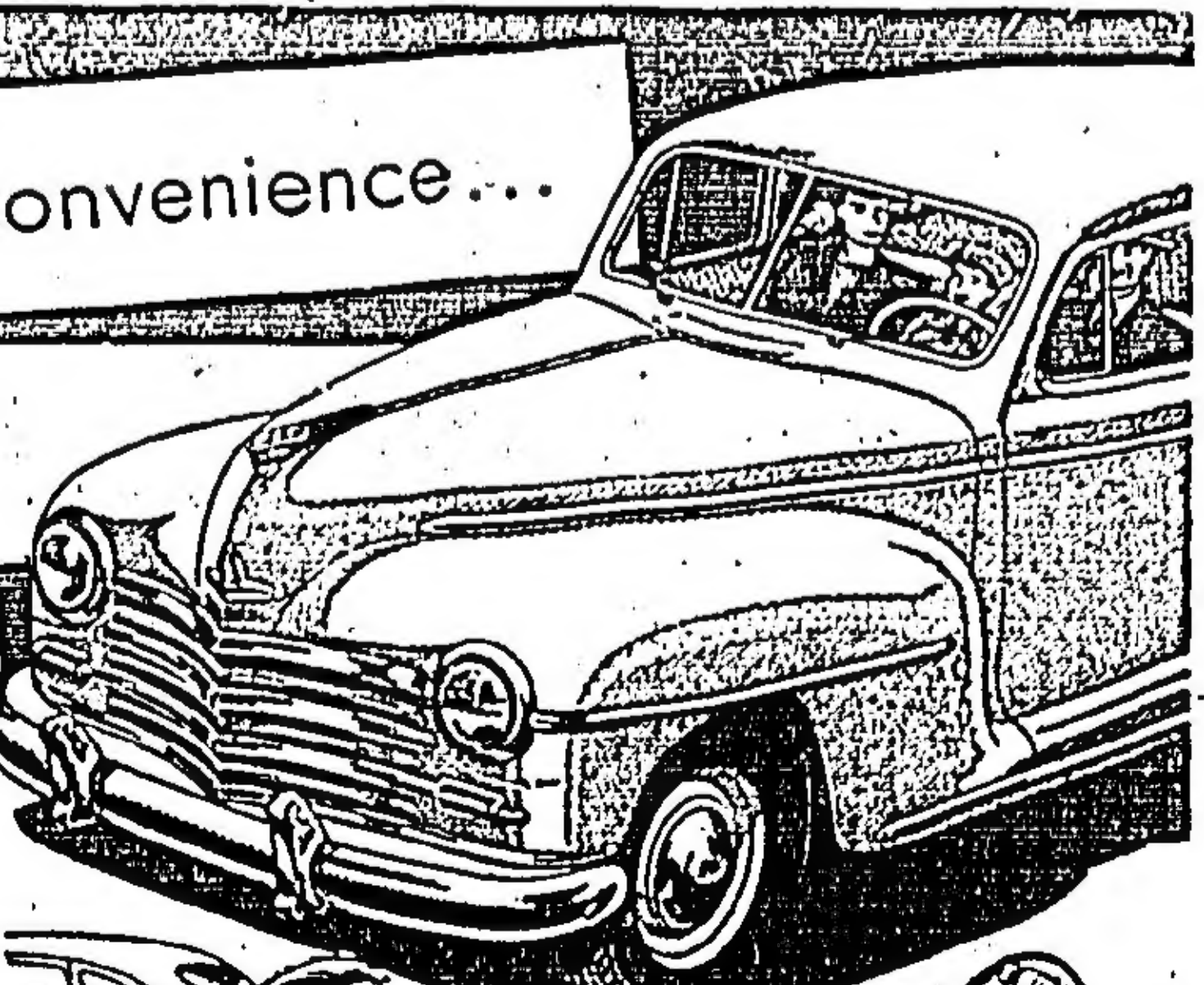
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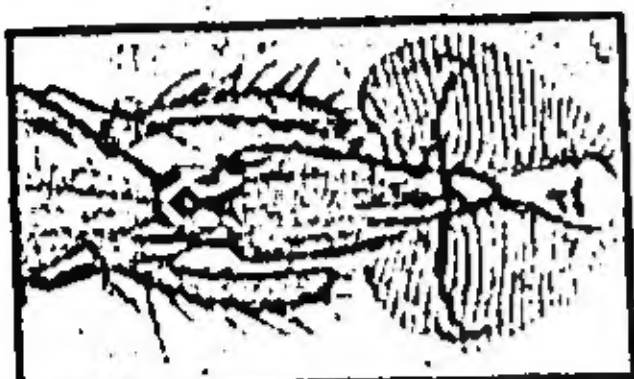
Are You Sure?

Answers on Page 10

1. Where in Britain will you find the grave of one who—
In famous, though unknown, died abroad, yet is buried among kings?

2. One of these is not a British butterfly—
Red Admiral, Dinghy Skipper, Purple Emperor, Buff Orpington, Painted Lady.

3. An aeolian deposit is—
Ticket for a concert, deposit laid down by wind, Grecian hire purchase payment?



4. This is part of a—
Crayfish, dredging machine, fly.

5. Held aloft in the right hand of the Statue of Liberty at New York there is a—
Pair of scales, torch, flag, sword?

6. One of these football teams won the League Championship without losing a match—
Aston Villa, Sunderland, Arsenal, Preston North End, Manchester City.

7. Shakespeare omitted only one of these names from his plays—
Jack, Bill, Dory, Tom, Dick, Harry.

8. The Gunpowder Plot was aimed at the destruction of—
King, Lords, Commons?

9. Can you arrange these ale measures in correct order, smallest to largest—
Kilderkin, barrel, hogshead, firkin?

10. The best man at Princess Elizabeth's wedding was—
Lord Lascelles, Marquis of Milford, Haden, Duke of Norfolk?

11. The best man at Princess Elizabeth's wedding was—
Lord Lascelles, Marquis of Milford, Haden, Duke of Norfolk?

12. The best man at Princess Elizabeth's wedding was—
Lord Lascelles, Marquis of Milford, Haden, Duke of Norfolk?

13. The best man at Princess Elizabeth's wedding was—
Lord Lascelles, Marquis of Milford, Haden, Duke of Norfolk?

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18. The best man at Princess Elizabeth's wedding was—
Lord Lascelles, Marquis of Milford, Haden, Duke of Norfolk?

19. The best man at Princess Elizabeth's wedding was—
Lord Lascelles, Marquis of Milford, Haden, Duke of Norfolk?

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45. The best man at Princess Elizabeth's wedding was—
Lord Lascelles, Marquis of Milford, Haden, Duke of Norfolk?

War Planes Coming On Fast

Here's an up-to-date list of American Service aircraft

By CHARLES CORDRY
(United Press Aviation Writer)

AN almost bewildering number of spectacular new military planes have been introduced in recent months. So many that even aviation experts are hard put to keep up with developments.

It must be remembered, however, that these new planes are not an indication of the American nation's military air strength. Many are not yet part of the combat air forces. Most are experimental planes—designated as "X" planes. Most are limited in production, many to only three planes.

Here are the latest U.S. Air Force and Navy planes by category:

Jet and Rocket Research Aircraft

Bell XS-1.—Rocket-powered. In flight tests at Muroc, California, has approached the speed of sound. Designed to fly up to twice the speed of sound, which is 763 miles an hour at sea level. It is an Air Force plane.

Bell XS-2.—Rocket-powered. Successor to XS-1. Now under construction. Will have swept-back wings which are expected to reduce the shock at the speed of sound.

Douglas D-558-1 Skyrocket.—Jet-propelled. Holds the world's official speed record, 650.6 miles per hour, established at Muroc on August 25. It is a Navy plane.

Douglas D-558-2 Skyrocket.—A rocket-powered swept-back-wing aircraft. The Navy says it should fly 650 to 750 miles an hour in tests to start soon.

Douglas XS-3.—Being designed for the Air Force. Supposed to be designed for two to three times sonic speed with an altitude ceiling of 200,000 to 300,000 feet.

The above are NOT combat planes. They are flying laboratories from which the services hope to obtain design data for practical supersonic combat planes.

Bombers

While the Air Force would rely today on the Boeing B-29 superfortress, it has these bombers coming along:

Boeing B-50.—Adapted from the B-29 superfortress but with more

range, bomb capacity and speed. There are 133 on order and the first few should be turned over soon to the Air Force.

Consolidated-Vultee B-30.—A six-engine plane said to have a 10,000-mile range with five tons of bombs. That is 2½ times the range of a B-29 and 3½ times the bomb load. There are 100 on order.

Northrop B-35 Flying Wing.—Said to have a 10,000-mile range with five tons of bombs. Thirteen have been ordered.

North American B-45.—Only jet bomber now in production. The Air Force has ordered 100. It has four jet engines. The Air Force claims it will exceed 400 miles an hour, and carry 11 tons of bombs with about a 2,200-mile range.

Consolidated-Vultee XB-46.—Four-jet bomber in the 11-ton, 2,200 to 2,400-mile range, greater than 400 m.p.h. category. Only one built.

Boeing XB-47.—Revolutionary experimental bomber having six jet engines, swept-back wings and a speed around 600 miles an hour. Range said to be about 2,000 miles and capacity 11 tons. An experimental contract called for two.

Marlin XB-48.—Six-jet bomber with bicycle landing gear. Speed about 500 miles an hour. Bomb capacity 11 tons and range about 2,100 miles. Two ordered.

Northrop YB-49.—An eight-jet version of the B-35 flying wing. Performance about the same as other jet bombers, but it has more range.

Air Force and Navy Fighters

Lockheed P-80 (Shooting Star) and Republic P-84 (Thunderjet).—Combat-ready Air Force jet interceptors. Have fired their guns under simulated combat conditions at more than 500 and 600 miles per hour. Both are mass-production planes.

North American P-82.—Conventional propeller long-range escort fighter. Has a twin fuselage and is called the twin-Mustang because of its resemblance to its predecessor.

North American P-51 of war fame. Top speed 475 miles an hour. Grumman F4F Bearcat and Chance Vought F4U Corsair.—Only two propeller-type fighters the Navy now has in production.

McDonnell F1H Phantom.—A twin-jet plane with speed exceeding 600 miles an hour. Navy's first jet fighter. Carrier groups are being formed.

McDonnell F2H Banshee.—A twin-jet, more powerful Navy

brother to the Phantom. Also is in production. Is in the 600-mile-an-hour class.

Chance Vought F4U Corsair.—A jet now in production. Said to fly "well over 500 miles per hour."

North American FJ.—Fourth Navy jet now in production. Also a 500-mile-an-hour plane.

Experimental Fighters

North American XP-86.—A 600-mile-an-hour Air Force fighter. Swept-back wings and range over 1,000 miles. Possible successor to P-80 and P-84.

Curlew XP-87.—The first four-jet fighter plane, recently began ground and taxi tests. Designed as an Air Force all-weather fighter.

Grumman XF9F.—Has a British Nene jet engine interchangeable with an Allison jet. Navy plane.

Chance Vought XF8U Flying Pancake.—Propeller-type Navy plane.

In early stage of development are McDonnell parasite fighter, designed to be carried aboard the B-36 bomber; McDonnell XP-88 and Lockheed XP-80, designed to be long-range jet fighters.

Photo-Reconnaissance Planes

XF-11, built by Howard Hughes.—A better than 400-mile-an-hour plane now being tested by Air Force. Two built.

XF-12.—A four-engine, 450-mile-an-hour Republic plane for the Air Force. Two built.

FP-80.—Photo-reconnaissance version of the P-80 jet fighter.

Attack Bombers

Douglas AD-1 Skyraider and the Martin AM-1 Mauler.—They pack the fire power of destroyers or light cruisers, and fly at more than 350 miles an hour. Both Navy planes and in production.

Navy Patrol Planes

Martin P4M Mariner.—Two jet and two conventional engines. Lockheed P2V Neptune.—The Truculent Turtle, a P2V, holds the world's non-stop distance record from Melbourne, Australia, to Cleveland, O. A twin-engine plane.

Martin PBM-5A Amphibious Mariner.—Jack-of-all-trades. Serves as patrol-reconnaissance or cargo-carrying plane.

All are in production.

Transport Planes

Consolidated-Vultee XC-99.—World's largest land plane. Designed to carry 400 troops. Recently flown for the first time. A transport version of the B-30. Air Force. One built.

Boeing C-97.—Transport version of the B-29 and B-50. To be sold to commercial airlines as the Boeing Stratocruiser. Is in production.

Lockheed Constellation.—Experimental Navy transport. Capacity, 180 passengers. There are two of these.

The Fairchild C-119 Packet.—Adaptation of Fairchild C-82 Packet. Also known as "flying boxcar." In production. Troop and cargo carrier.

FROM HERE & THERE:

"Sinterklaas" In Africa

Johannesburg.—Believing that Santa Claus in scarlet and fur and driving a reindeer is out of place in an African summer, Afrikaners here have invented their own Father Christmas. Re-christened Sinterklaas, he appeared at a local school in a beard, a green coat decorated with tinsel, a tall blue hat with an ostrich feather, and brown trousers.

The colours are symbolic of South Africa's blue sky, green veld and brown.

He was accompanied by Mother Christmas in a somewhat similar outfit.

ILLEGAL

Ottawa.—Canadian wartime pilots have been approached by Arab sympathisers to fight as volunteers against the Jews in the Holy Land. Several ex-R.C.A.F. fliers have received definite offers but so far none is known to have accepted. Under the Foreign Enlistments Act it is against the law for Canadians to fight in the forces of other countries.

NO WONDER!

Adelaide.—A vicious five-foot snake has driven Mrs. Zappelli and her baby out of her five-roomed house near Kangaroo, Australia's gold town. The snake attacked the baker, who fought it off with his bread-basket. The snake retired beneath the flooring. It was enticed out later with a saucer of milk, but

retired again before it could be killed. Mrs. Zappelli will not enter the house again until the snake is killed.

VICIOUS SHARK

Melbourne.—A nine-year-old boy, standing in 18 inches of water, hauling a net for his father—a professional fisherman—at Watsons Taylor Lake on the north coast, was severely mauled by a six-foot shark.

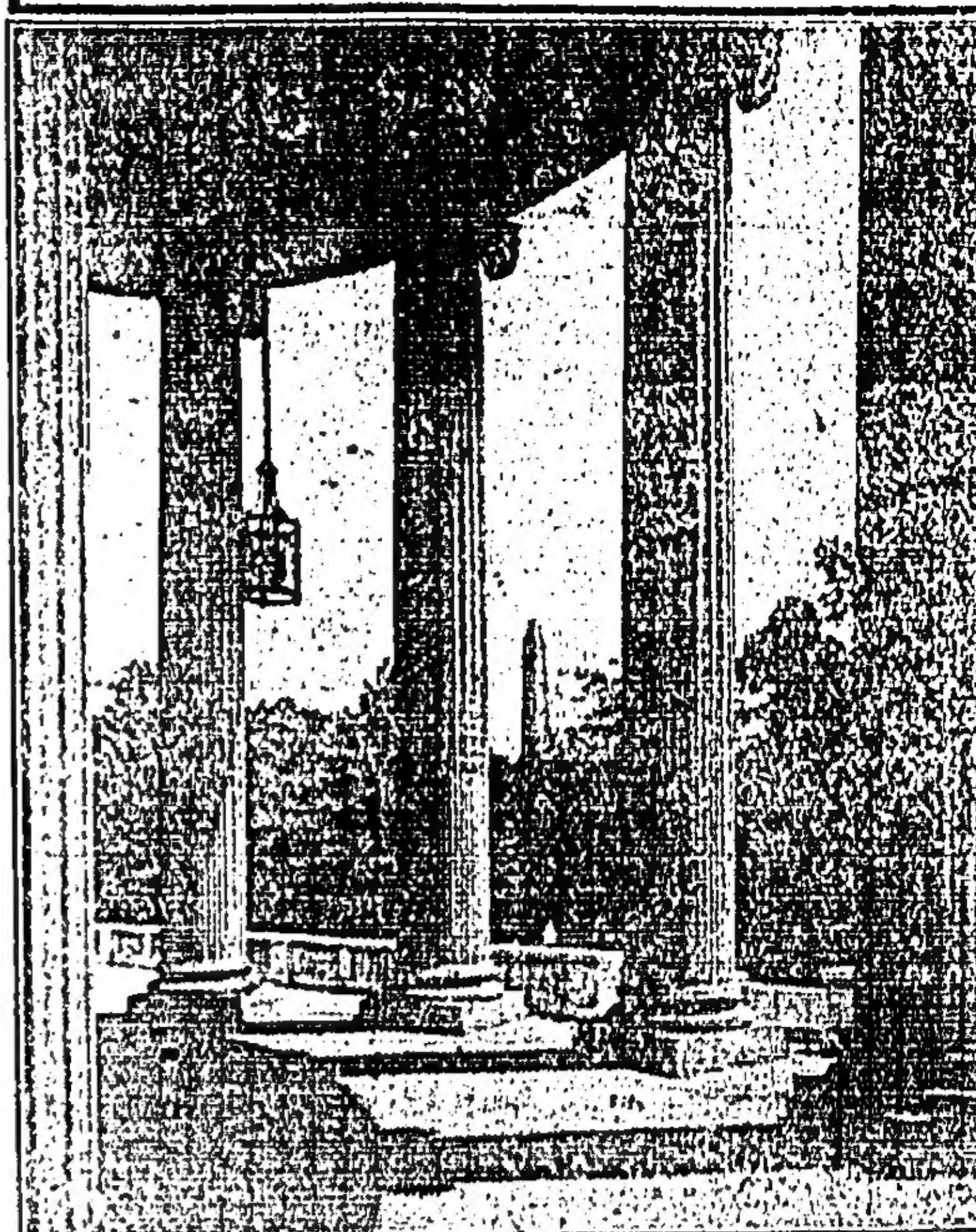
The boy, Donald Ireland, was rescued by his father and taken to hospital, seriously injured with a deeply lacerated thigh.

MYSTERY HIPPO

Johannesburg.—How did the hippopotamus turn round? This is the question puzzling officers of the Ship Kenilworth Castle, which is carrying a record cargo of 200 animals to Britain. The hippo is 12ft. long, his crate is 6ft. dia. wide. One morning he was found to be facing in the opposite direction. "Heaven knows how he did it," one of the officers told me. "We are still trying to work it out."

The SNAPSHOT GUILD

AN EYE FOR DETAIL



A carefully selected viewpoint and a small lens aperture help give this picture interest and detail.

WHETHER you photograph your own home or a new building that has just gone up, detail is essential. Because of this, a first rule for good architectural snapshots is "stop down." Use the smallest lens opening possible with existing conditions of light.

This will mean longer exposures. If you must shoot at less than 1/25 of a second, it will mean using a tripod or some other support to steady your camera when you click the shutter. But results justify this care. A small lens opening, providing a great range of sharpness, insures good definition in objects at various distances from the camera.

Notice, for example, that the columns in the foreground of today's illustration are sharply recorded. Some distance away, beyond the balustrade, the globe of a street lamp is in focus. Still farther away, beyond the trees, the Monument rises and is sharply defined. The lens opening used was f.22.

Detail, however, is only one factor that helps make this picture a good one. Looking at it, it is clear that the snapshotter carefully picked an interesting viewpoint. The monument, seen in the "frame" of the columns, helps give a feeling of depth. So do the runlike shadows cast by the columns across the pavement.

One further point should be noticed. The vertical lines of the columns are straight; our photographer has avoided distortion. To do this it was necessary to be well back from the columns in the foreground. The camera, in a high position, was set absolutely level.

Distortion—as for example, the tendency of vertical lines to taper towards the centre of the picture—is at times effective. It presents an unusual "angle" effect for picturing high buildings from a close-up viewpoint. But, like any trick effect, it should be approached with caution. And it is always well to remember that with most architectural studies distortion should be avoided.

John van Guilder.

VIGNETTES OF LIFE



"AND I ONLY HAVE TO PAY ONE WEEK'S SALARY... INSTEAD OF SIX!"

OUR NEW YEAR WISH IS FOR AN INCOME TAX FORM THAT WE COULD FILL OUT COMPLETE IN TEN MINUTES—AND KNOW IT WAS BOUNCE-PROOF.



"YOU'D BETTER GO WASH YOUR HANDS AND FACE AND COMB YOUR HAIR!"

"YES SIR! DISH AWAY SIR!"

WE ALSO WISH THE YOUNGER SET WOULD FIND THEIR MANNERS, ANSWER RESPECTFULLY... AND THAT WE WON'T COLLAPSE FROM THE SHOCK.



"THAT ONE, THIRTY DOLLARS, 'BECAUSE MY BOSS SAID SO'."

...OR TO BUY A SUIT WITHOUT THE SENSATIONS YOU GET WHEN CONTRACTING FOR A NEW CAR YOU CAN'T AFFORD.



"GEE, I'M SORRY, BOSS! I DIDN'T SEE YA CUTTIN' IN THERE... GET IT FIXED AND SEND ME TH' BILL."

AND IF WE SHOULD HAVE A FENDER-BENDING JOUST WE WISH THE OTHER GUY WOULD ADMIT IT WAS HIS FAULT... AND NOT THREATEN US WITH MAYHEM.

Ledger Syndicate



WE WISH, TOO, THAT RADIO PERFORMERS WOULD SING OR PLAY OUR FAVORITE TUNES AS WRITTEN... AND THAT THE WIFE WOULDN'T START READING SOMETHING TO US RIGHT IN THE MIDDLE OF OUR PET QUIZ.




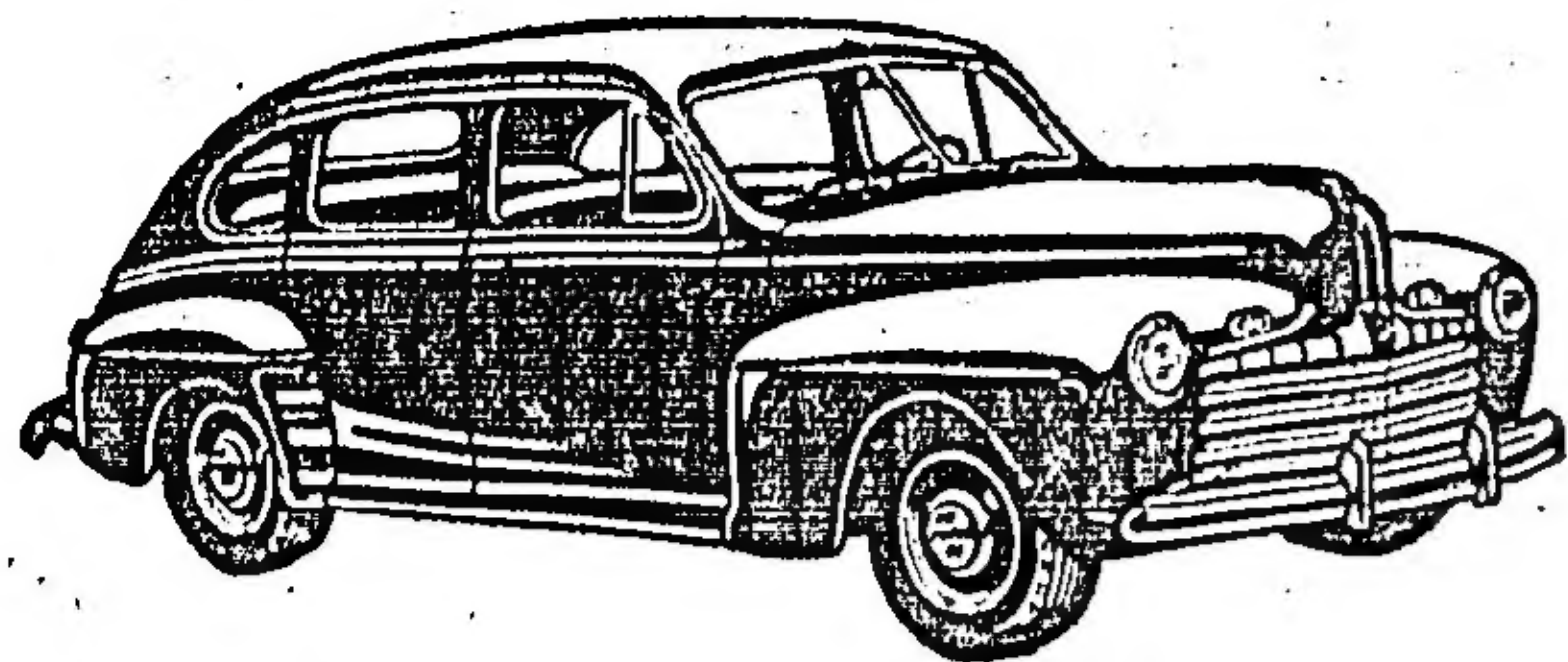
"YOU DO THEM YOUR OWN WAY!"

AND WHEN WE DO GET STUCK FOR THE DISCHORD WE WISH MRS. WOULD KEEP HER INSTRUCTIONS TO HERSELF.

Ledger Syndicate

"New Year Wishes"

By KEMP STARRETT

LINCOLN  MERCURY

IMMEDIATE DELIVERY

OPEN SPORTS MODELS AVAILABLE

Instalments Accepted

HARPER & SHEA, LTD.

SHELL HOUSE, H.K.

Telephone 28273.

Everybody's Favorite!

TOPPS CHEWING GUM

Obtainable in tins or boxes at all leading stores.

MADE IN ALL POPULAR FLAVORS

Sole Agents and Distributors:

HOWAH & CO., LTD. 行洋華巧

United States Now
Exporting Rice

Washington, Jan. 23.—The United States has nearly doubled its annual rice production in the last two decades, a result due in large part to "mechanisation" of a crop which in other parts of the world has relied largely upon traditional methods of culture.

"Yankee" inventions applicable to grain culture and cotton harvesting—namely the "combine" and the "cotton-picker"—have stirred the world's imagination in recent years, but the "mechanisation" of the rice industry has attracted less popular attention.

Although Asiatic rice-producing countries with more abundant labour supply would not be likely to employ many of the American mechanical methods, rice experts here point out that the "scientific spirit" is working in Burma and Siam, world's greatest rice-exporting countries.

The government of newly-independent Burma, it is predicted, will adopt and apply many scientific innovations in culture, transportation and marketing, although not likely to employ such extreme labour-saving devices as the planting of rice from aeroplanes.

United States production of rough rice in the five years 1930-34, 1934-35 averaged annually 41,572,000 bushels, and in five years immediately before World War II averaged annually 49,852,000 bushels. The 1947-48 crop was preliminarily estimated at 70,047,000, compared to 71,820,000 in the previous year.

World Rice Deficiency

The expanding production in the United States is a consequence partly of the world rice deficiency and partly of high prices which have encouraged development of new rice-growing areas, with mechanical aids, in the United States. As a result the United States is now among the rice-exporting nations, with an International Emergency Food Council allocation of 100,000 metric tons for the first half of 1948.

Aeroplane seeding of rice has been rapidly extended in United States, and in 1945 about 90 percent of the California acreage was sown from the air. The seed is sown quite evenly over a strip 30 to 50 feet wide for each trip of the plane across the field. The pilot of the plane is guided by a flagman at each end of the field.

Most of the rice in the southern states and California is either harvested with grain binders or "combined," according to the Department of Agriculture. However, along the Mississippi River and in the Bayou Teche country of Louisiana, some rice is still cut with hand sickles, and threshed when dry. The "combine" cuts and threshes the rice in one operation.

Great Asset

The "combines" are either self-propelled or are pulled through the fields by tractors. When drawn by a tractor the power for running the cutting and threshing units is supplied by a gasoline or diesel engine mounted on the frame of the "combine."

Development of automotive transportation also has been a great asset to the United States rice industry. In earlier years, practically all the hauling of rice to mills, storage houses or railway shipping points was done by horse and wagon. But now automobile trucks are used almost exclusively except by growers of small crops.

Every stage of rice drying and milling is aided by machinery. Securing is done with a mechanical brush. Some millers give the rice a glossy appearance by using a machine which coats the milled rice with "glucose" and "talc." The three principal rice-producing sections in the United States, according to the Department of Agriculture, are:

Principal Areas

1. The broad level prairies of Southwestern Louisiana and South-eastern Texas. Irrigation water for this section is largely pumped from sluggish streams or bayous, which provide natural drainage for the prairies. Wells also provide water for irrigation.

2. The Grand Prairies section of Eastern Arkansas. Irrigation water for this section is largely pumped from wells.

3. The Sacramento and San Joaquin valleys of California. In these valleys irrigation water is obtained by diversion or pumps, largely from the Feather and Sacramento rivers.

Recently, rice culture has grown most rapidly in California. Cultivation started there in 1912, with about 1,400 acres. In 1943, stimulated by the war effort to supply food, the California rice area extended to 230,000 acres. The great "central valley" project may result in further expansion.—United Press.

ARE YOU SURE?

ANSWERS

Questions on Page 9

1. Westminster Abbey—the Unknown Warrior. 2. Buff Orpington is a breed of poultry. 3. Proboscis of a fly. 4. Torch. 5. Preston North End. 1888-9. 7. Bill. 8. All three. It was timed for the opening of Parliament. 9. Firkin (nine gallons). 10. Kilderkil (10), barrel (30) hoghead (54). 11. Marquis of Milford Haven.

CROSSWORD SOLUTION

Solution of yesterday's puzzle.—Across: 1. Overshoes; 8. Raspberry; 10. Citadel; 12. Nainid; 13. Tantal; 15. Slow; 16. Exotic; 18. Toss; 19. Yes; 20. Rots; 21. Doss; 22. Aynah; 23. Oiler.

Down: 1. Orchestra; 2. Vain-glory; 3. Estates; 4. Heed; 5. Orleans; 6. Ernie; 7. Synopses; 9. Paid; 11. Daisy; 14. Needs; 17. Doss.

PHOTOSTRIP SERIAL—No. 18

HOW A HOLLYWOOD STAR IS BORN ★

SYNOPSIS:

While Bob Hope and the Malcays entertain with a harmonica act, Catherine hides under a table in the audience with an off-stage microphone over which she'll sing for "The Blonde."

Bob Hope re-introduces "The Blonde," and this time she takes her number. In the middle of the song, however, she realises that Catherine's beautiful voice is so good that something must be done. While Catherine sings into the microphone under

the table, "The Blonde" goes out into the audience, pulls back the table, and reveals Catherine putting her all into the deception. She tells Catherine that at last she has found herself, and she wants Catherine to go on with the song so the audience

can see her. The audience is aghast at this development, as is Bob Hope and the rest of the show people there who never saw anything like this happen anywhere before. So, Catherine at last gets her chance to make good.

It's tougher than ever
being an author

ON BECOMING A WRITER,
by Vera Brittain.
(Hutchinson, 10s. 6d.)

SO you are going to write a book? Let me not discourage you. About 600 books are published each week. One recent week's selection included: "300 Ways of Mixing Drinks," an "Atlas of Dental Histology," "Histology," and "Schoolgirl Janet." There is room, you see, for everybody. The only golden rules are to know how to write and what to write about.

Paper shortage adds a sinister touch. So does the gaucheness of publishers. We are always being told of the number of classics which are out of print. Yet a glance at the bookseller tells me that five different publishers are producing five rival editions of John Bunyan in one year.

This is discouraging to young men who, like Bunyan, have been in prison—and there are, alas, many—who are writing what they hope to be masterpieces.

I know of no writer in Britain today who lives by books alone. But, if you persist in writing that book, out of creative energy, I beg you to study Miss Vera Brittain. She will purge your urge. Her wisdom will refine your literary ambition.

JOHN
PUDNEY
reviews

the New Books

Even if you have no intention ever of writing a book—and which of you has not?—you will enjoy this backstage tour of literature with its facts and anecdotes tumbling in and out of the dressing rooms.

Miss Brittain herself has been through the mill. She has written failures and best-sellers. She has always scared me slightly as a militant lady. She lists politics as one of her recreations. But in these pages she comes to be formidable and becomes a good explicit aunt.

Here, for example, is a plum of advice for anybody who has written Chapter I on the top of the page:

A fiction writer must know everything about his characters, even though he does not tell the whole to his readers. . . . a character which is not clear-cut in the writer's mind cannot hope to achieve life in the reader's mind. For that reason it is well for every author to live with his characters for some time before putting them on paper.

There is advice, too, for those who are willing to take it, about gazing—"If you aspire to be a novelist, it is particularly important to keep both your knowledge and your company as general as possible, and to avoid foregatherings only with practitioners of your own craft. Novels about writers are seldom the most successful."

A publisher has assured me, with tears in his eyes (publishers can be blinded but not with tears), that he would not print another American book if he could find young English authors who could write.

Britain possesses a top shelf of under-middle-aged writers which makes the American mouth water. At random I would begin the list with H. E. Bates, Rex Warner, Evelyn Waugh, Graham Greene, Patrick Hamilton, and Gerald Kersh.

It is the lower shelves which worry publishers. They are eager to stock up with a new generation. They are inundated with manuscripts from writers who should read Miss Vera Brittain's advice.

SAMUEL PEPPYS, THE MAN
IN THE MAKING,
by Arthur Bryant.
(Collins, 15s.)

THE sufferable egotist Pepys can make a whole civilisation stand round his person, his dining, his winking, his amours. He revealed so much so effectively about himself and yet had time to found a sea-power and Civil Service which are the wonder of the world.

This is a re-issue of Dr Bryant's biographical study, which was first published in 1933. Read it for its genial and robust insight into history.

In his new preface the author reminds us that it records a European war, a fire of London, an economic crisis, and a revolution.

"Since I wrote it we have experienced two of these and are passing through the others. It may help to set our ordeal in perspective, to read with what courage Pepys faced these shadows."

Rupert and the Big Bang—25



When he has got over the shock of the explosion Mr. Bear bends down and picks up the last of the big squibs. "Tell me where you got these dreadful, dangerous things from," he shouts. Seeing his father so annoyed Rupert has to break his promise to "Bing" and explain where the squibs came from. "Well, just you take this back," says Mr. Bear sternly, "and tell Bing that he has no business to have such things or to give them away!"

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Skeleton Crossword

CLUES ACROSS

- You may find two of these in a box.
- Said it.
- Separate entrance to a room.
- Their turn-out is a matter of a hair rather than of habit.
- Who cuts the first man short.
- he's pe- he's a d d himself!
- Great work, pal!
- It seems the sorcerer is mainly inclined to tell fantastic stories.
- The time of the raids.
- An early start is indicated here.
- "Letters" (anag.).
- The injury seems to be twisted.
- Forwards the rewards.

CLUES DOWN

- One result of jet-propulsion, maybe.
- Play-time colour, shall we say?
- The council of state opens with a short month and thereby gets a little thanks.
- Makes a fresh line of Verdi scores.
- Musette?
- Not necessarily the twang of a banjo.
- Might provide one with tea (a spoon?).
- Only a third of a wicket? But it should be enough to defeat you!
- As long as it's a good one. It's O.K. with the soldier.
- Fish around for the old general.
- In this officer inclined to make fun of his girl-friend?
- The girl in New York, you goat!
- Quoted a decree, possibly.
- Voyage, or the voyage itself, we hear.
- Act like a bad penny?
- Fall foretuner.

SOLVERS of the Skeleton Crossword are reminded to fill in the black squares and clue numbers as well as the words. To give you a start, four numbers and four black squares have been given. The pattern is symmetrical. The two sides balance each other and the top and bottom letters correspond. You can therefore fill in 12 more black squares at once to correspond with those given.

There are two down clues before No. 3 so that, since no two-letter words are used, except in phrases, the second square from the left in the top line and the three corresponding ones must be blacked in. Note also that there is an in down as well as an in across; therefore the square immediately above that containing the letter R should also be a black one.

LAST WEEK'S SOLUTION

K N A V E O T S P A D E S
S Z O A A U C U C T
C I N E M A R A N T L E R
O E T P R O T E S T A A
R O T A C H I O N E T O N
C O R E C L A R I O N E T
A A R I N G I N L C O O P
R E D E A A E A S H E R
D T N L L U V T
N O R T U N E T E L L E R

DIGGING FOR
PHARAONIC
FORTRESS

Excavations will commence soon at a fortress town of the Pharaonic period at Amarah West, near Wadi Halfa, Upper Egypt, in an effort to produce information about life in a frontier post in the days of the Pharaohs.

A complete temple was uncovered and many historical documents were found as a result of digging in 1939. It became evident that the ancient town was a kind of provincial capital, specially situated to control and guard traffic along the River Nile and caravans from the Western Desert.

Previous research showed that the town was originally built on an island. For reasons still unknown, the main river channel was silted up in the year 1080 B.C. The town was covered by sand in violent sandstorms and was hurriedly abandoned by its inhabitants.

This disaster has helped to preserve the town, which was so deeply buried that it was never seriously looted.

H. W. Fairman will direct the expedition, which was organised by the Egypt Exploration Society of London. E. Iverson, an expert Egyptologist from Denmark, and P. C. Fell will accompany the expedition, the first organised by the Society since the war.

Sixteen Egyptians and 130 Sudanese workmen will undertake the digging job. Some of the Egyptians are expert diggers from the village of Kift, which supplied diggers for all the excavations at Luxor.—United Press.

McKENNEY
ON BRIDGE

Clever Second Hand
High Beats 3 N. T.

By WILLIAM E. MCKENNEY

MANY people are surprised to learn of the charity activities of the American Contract Bridge League. During the war the League organised War Orphans Scholarships, Inc., and now it has transferred its activity in the fight against cancer to a new corporation known as Children's Cancer Fund, Inc.

One of the people most interested in this new activity is Bob Hawk of quiz fame. Bob has done a great deal to foster charity causes of the League.

Here is a nice defensive play that Bob made in a recent game. Dummy played the jack of spades on the opening lead and East covered with the queen. Declarer refused to win this trick and laid off the spades until the third round.

Then he led the eight of hearts. The rule is for second hand to

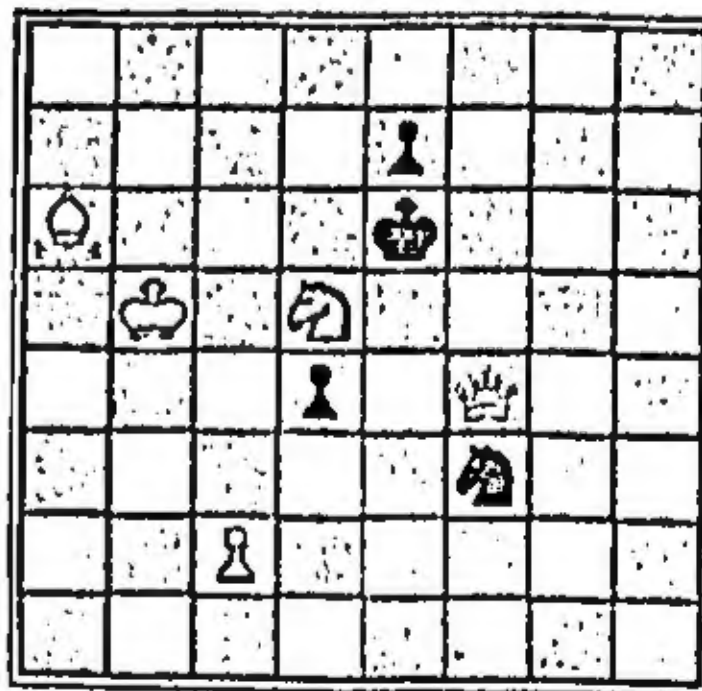
play low, but if West plays the four-spot on this trick, declarer will finesse the nine in dummy. East will be forced to win with the queen, and without a spade to return, he can do nothing to prevent declarer from winning the balance of the tricks. On the next heart play dummy's jack can be finessed and the ace will pick up the whole suit.

However, instead of playing low on the first heart, Bob went up with the king. Declarer had to win in dummy with the ace, otherwise Hawk would have cashed the rest of the spades. South returned to his hand with a diamond and led the other heart. When Hawk played the four, dummy's nine was finessed.

Naturally South knew that Hawk did not have the queen, or he would have played it in order to cash the spades. East won the second heart trick and exited with a diamond, and South found it impossible to make more than eight tricks, "not being able to cash the hearts."

CHESS PROBLEM

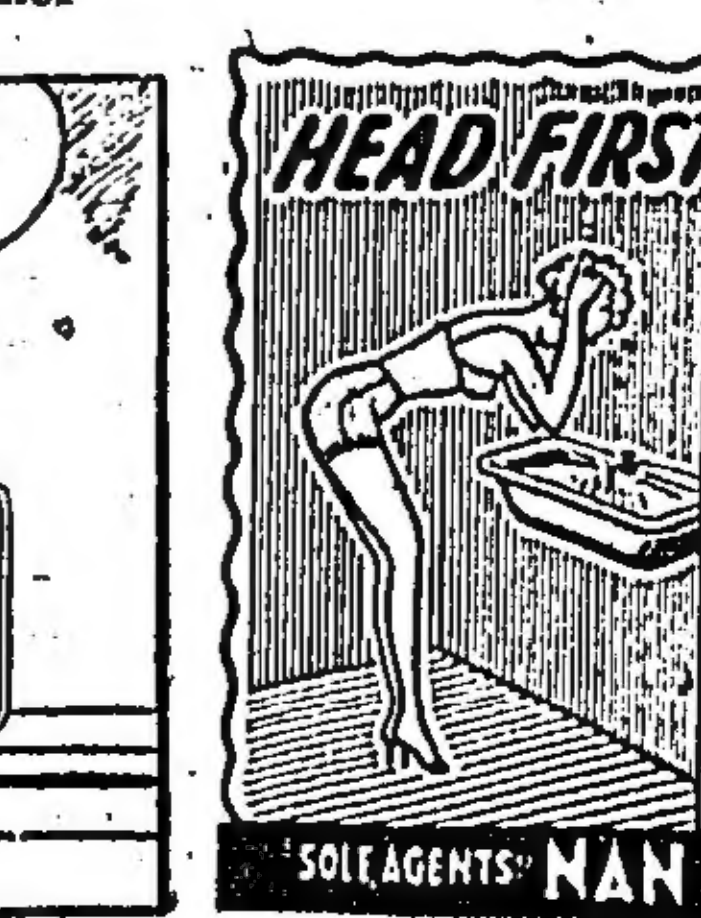
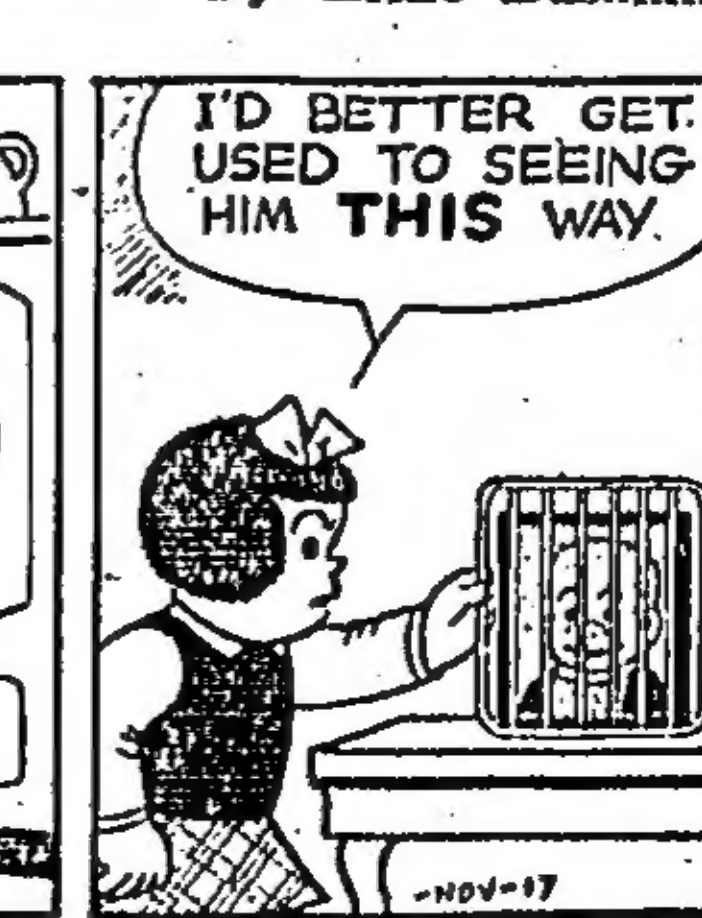
By K. TRAXLER
Black, 4 pieces.



White, 5 pieces
White to play and mate in three.
Solution to yesterday's problem:

1. K-K3, any; 2. Q. K. or K. mates.

NANCY Preview



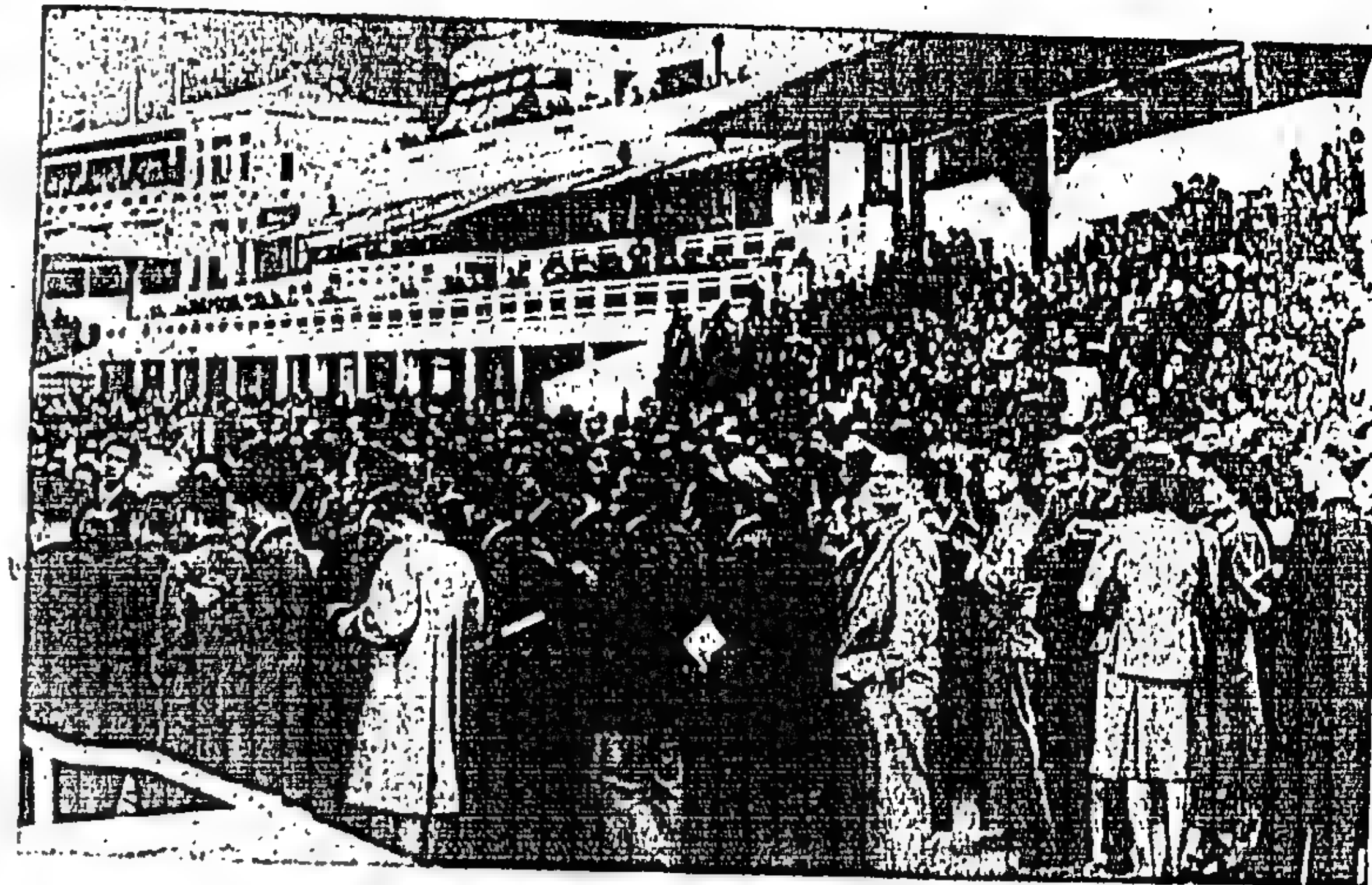
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TELEGRAPH WEEK-END PICTORIAL

CROWDS PACK VALLEY
FOR ANNUAL RACES

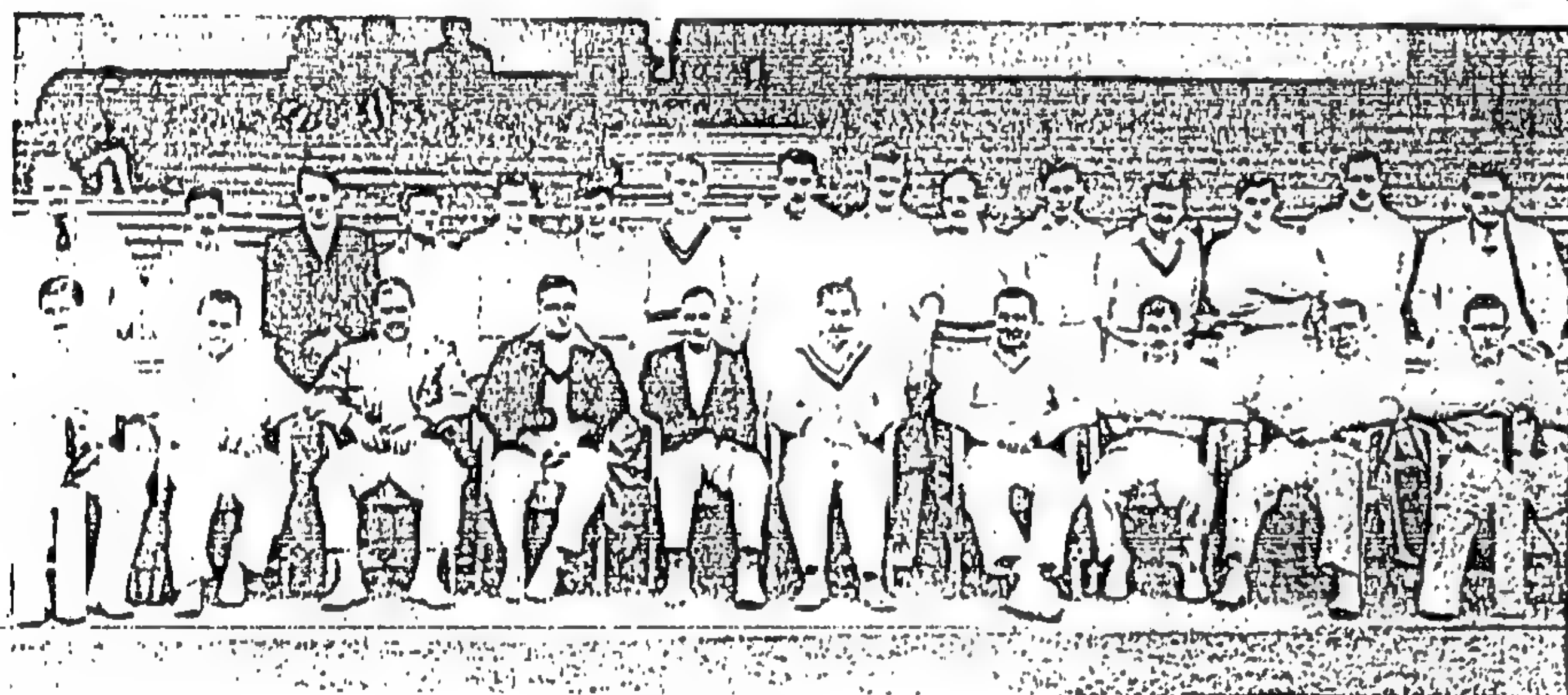
THE 1948 annual meeting of the Hongkong Jockey Club opened in brilliant weather last Saturday. Large crowds packed the stands and enclosures throughout the first three days of the meeting. Picture on the top right hand corner of the page gives an idea of the large attendance on Derby Day. Above, the Derby winner, Ataman, ridden by Mr E. A. Brodie, is seen being cheered in after winning the classic. The Ladies' Purse was won by Mr M. M. Boycott on Black Market, and the jockey is seen in top centre picture being presented with the purse by Miss Joan Kenniff. Right, scene during the drawing of the Derby sweepstake. (Photos: Golden Studio and Ming Yuen)



MLLE. MICHELINE JOBEZ, eldest daughter of the French Consul-General and Mme. Jobez. Portrait was taken on her fifteenth birthday. (Photo: A's Studio)



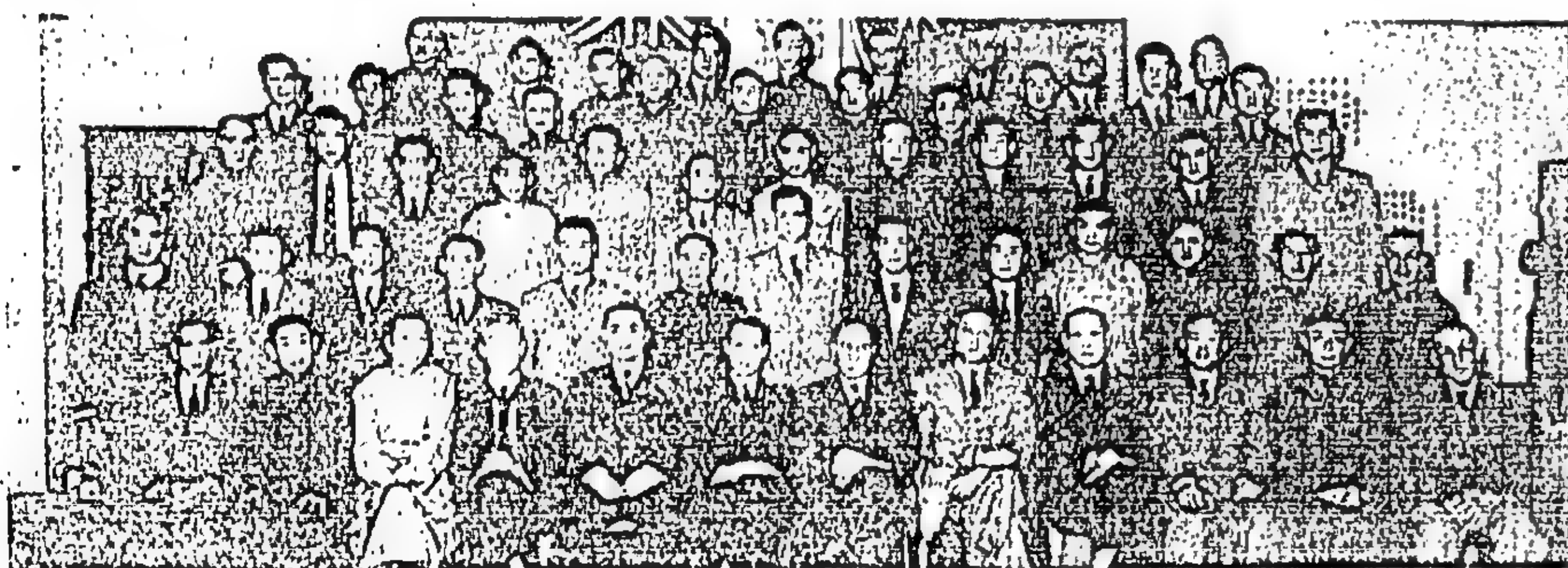
DEANNE ALWYNNE, infant daughter of Mr and Mrs R. R. Davies, was christened at St John's Cathedral last Sunday. (Photo: Ming Yuen)



INTER-HONG CRICKET—Teams from Messrs. Butterfield and Swire, Ltd. and Messrs. Jardine, Matheson and Co., Ltd., which met in a friendly cricket match last Sunday. The former won by 26 runs. (Photo: Ming Yuen)



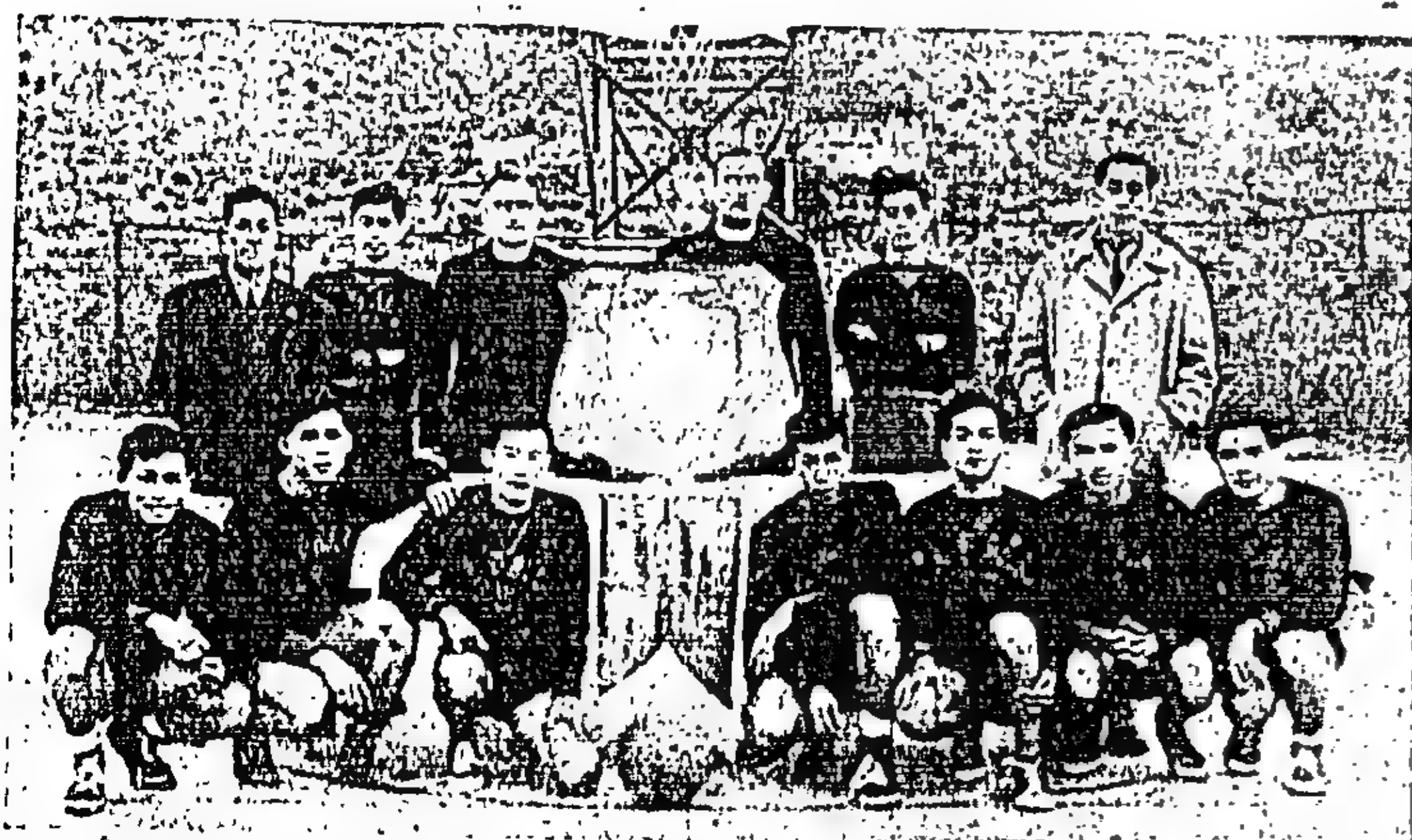
ANOTHER christening at St John's Cathedral last week was that of Michael Bradbury, infant son of Mr and Mrs S. A. Fowler. (Photo: Ming Yuen)



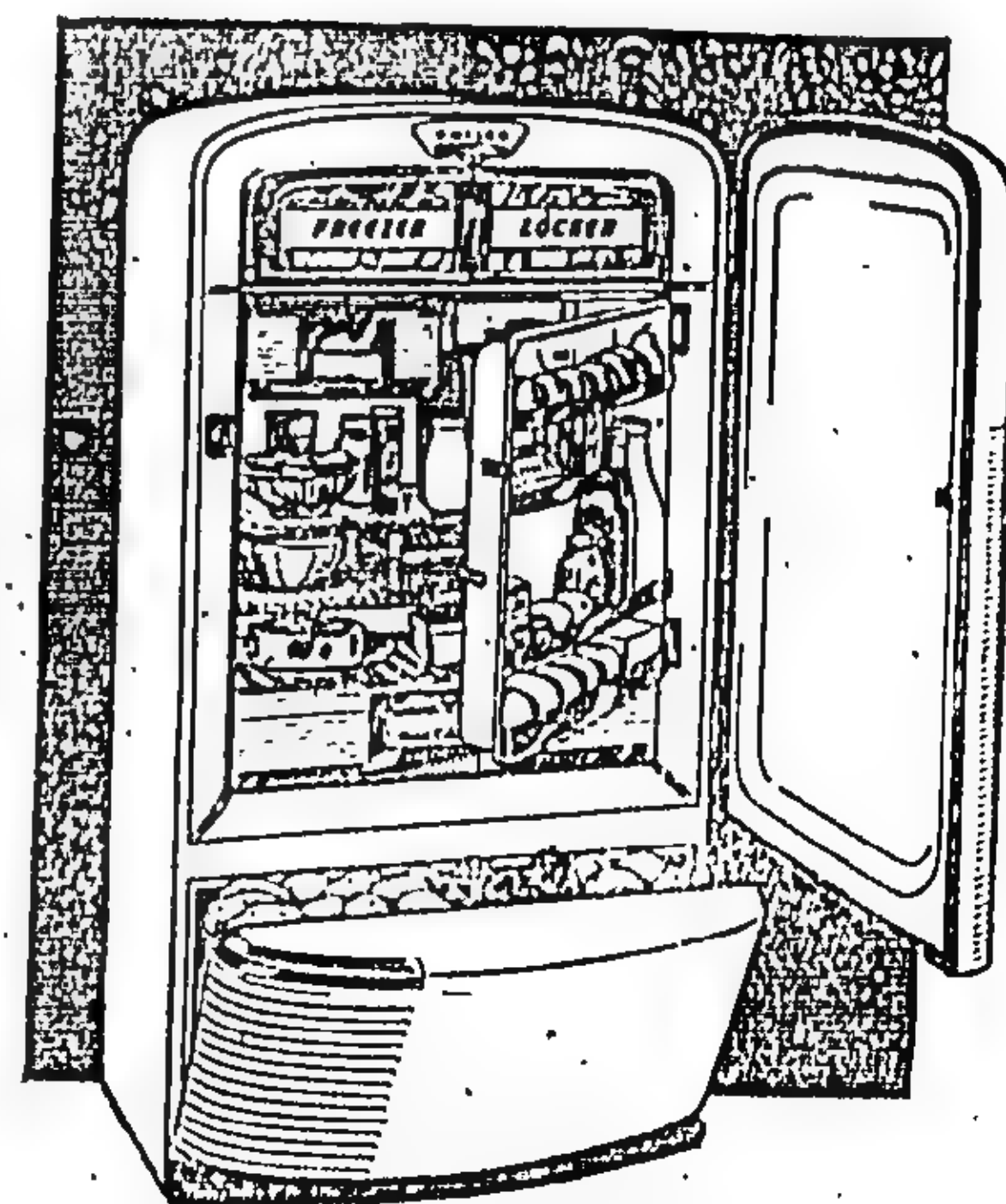
PHOTOGRAPH shows the Committee and members of the Hongkong Flour Merchants' Association. (Photo: Mee Cheung)



MR AND MRS JOHNSON LEE photographed on the occasion of their Silver Wedding together with their children. Mr Lee is the chief accountant of the Bank of Canton, with which organisation he has been connected for more than 25 years.



INTER-SCHOOL BASKETBALL—Above is the La Salle College team, which won the senior league organised by the South China Athletic Association. On right is the Chung Hwa Middle School team, which won the junior league. (Photos: Golden Studio)

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Jap Politics Riddled With Corruption

Tokyo, Jan. 23.—Prominent American occupation officials charged today that Japanese politics is honeycombed with graft and riddled with gangsterism.

In public conference with members of the Japanese press, Mr. Guy R. Swope, former Governor of Puerto Rico, who is now a member of SCAP's government section, uttered a vigorous warning that certain vicious elements in Japanese politics must be exterminated.

"Unless by some means or other the people of Japan can free themselves from the cancer of corruption and graft in politics, their chances to enjoy the benefits of a free government and free society are slight indeed," he said.

Old Influences
Mr. Swope added that many old influences which prevented the sound, orderly development of political parties are gone.

"The gunbatsu (military clique) have been eliminated and the power of the zaibatsu (economic clique) has been broken, but today there are the shinken kaikyū (new rich) and shinko zaibatsu (new money clique) whose impact is being felt upon political parties and their operations," Mr. Swope said.

"Then there are the gangsters and black market racketeers, who wield certain influence in politics. The extent of this can be guessed when it is recalled that one of the most notorious gangsters in the nation now in prison was almost elected a member of the present Diet."

Evil Corrupt
Mr. Swope charged that "there are many indications that evil and corrupt influences are playing a very important part in the politics of this nation."

"It seems significant that in Japan while many politicians are brought into court for improper practices, rarely if ever a national figure is arrested for corruption and graft," he added.

"Why is it they are never brought to the bar of justice? Is it because of a peculiar idea in Japan which places those who are on the top of the pile above the law?"—United Press.

THE FALL OF SINGAPORE

Two Questions Still Unanswered

Singapore, Jan. 23.—The newspaper Free Press, commenting on the dispatch of Air Chief Marshal Sir Robert Brooke-Popham, Commander in Chief, Far East, 1940-1941, published today, said the failure to recognise that Japan would strike was "the most serious entry of all in a docket heavy with error and misadventure."

The newspaper considered that though further despatches might cause distress, they should be published.

The English-language, Chinese and Malay newspapers today featured a 9,000-word report of the despatch, and the Malay Tribune declared the report would serve to "whet the appetite" for the despatches of Lieutenant General Arthur Ernest Percival, who was Commander in Chief in the Far East when Singapore fell.

The Malay Tribune said that the principal reason for the fall was "Why was the surrender made when the British Command had about 90,000 men to throw into action?"

"If the situation was hopeless, as it is now seen apparently to have been, why did General Wavell issue the spirited Order of the Day on February 10, 1942, ordering all commanders to resist to the last and die at their posts rather than withdraw?"—Reuter.

3-POWER TALKS NEXT MONTH

London, Jan. 23.—The forthcoming three-power conference on the future of Western Germany will probably be held from February 17 to February 19, it was learned from a reliable source today.

The final decision on time and place of the conference, expected to be held in London, has still to be taken.

A Foreign Office spokesman in London said the central issue before the conference would be the constitution of Western Germany and not, as several press reports suggested, the Frankfurt proposals on the "bizonal administration" recently submitted to the German Premiers.

He agreed, however, that a discussion of the Frankfurt proposals, to which the French Government has raised objections, will certainly take place.—Reuter.

FRENCH CONVOY AMBUSHED

Paris, Jan. 23.—Viet Nam guerrillas today ambushed a French amphibious convoy near Saigon, killing four French soldiers, but the guerrilla forces were beaten off with heavy losses after a fierce skirmish, the French High Command communique reported today, according to an Agence France Presse dispatch from Saigon.

Meanwhile, French Marines have captured a Viet Nam junk near Duchoan, killing all the crew and passengers.—Reuter.

Max Schmeling Will Fight Again This Year

Frankfurt, Jan. 23.—Max Schmeling, former world heavyweight champion, told a correspondent of the German news service in the British zone that he expected to meet the German title holder, Heini Ten Hoff, for the championship sometime this autumn.

Schmeling declared that he was trying to arrange a match in Sweden with Olle Tandberg, the Swedish champion, or John Nils-son.

He said he would not fight the Italian, Giovanni Martin, in Sweden, since Swedish sports regulations did not permit matches between two foreigners.

Schmeling denied rumours that financial difficulties had compelled him to stage a "comeback."

"The only reason is my love of boxing," he said.—Reuter.

Indonesian Cabinet Decides To Resign

Batavia, Jan. 23.—The Indonesian Republic's National Cabinet, headed by Dr Amir Sjarifuddin, resigned tonight, exactly one week after the signing of the truce agreement with the Dutch.

The resignation had been predicted after the crisis this week over the conditions attached by the Republic to its acceptance last Monday of the six political principles suggested by the United Nations Security Council's "Good Offices" Committee as the basis for a substantive political settlement to the two-and-a-half-year-old dispute with the Dutch.

Broadcasting from Jogjakarta tonight, the President of the Republic, Dr Soekarno, told Indonesian Republicans throughout Java and Sumatra that he had given his Vice-President, Dr Mohammed Hatta, a mandate to form a new government.

The names of the new Ministers are expected to be announced tomorrow.

The resignation of the Sjarifuddin Cabinet heightens the crisis that has arisen since the signing of the truce and the Republic's conditional acceptance of the political principles.

The difficulties of Dr Amir Sjarifuddin began on January 15, the day the Republican Government, after long deliberations with the Security Council's "Good Offices" Committee, announced that it would accept the Dutch proposal for a truce, fixing demilitarised zones along the demarcation line defined by the Netherlands East Indies Lieutenant Governor General, Dr Hubertus van Mook, between the Dutch and the Republican forces.

Subsequent efforts to induce the Masjumi to rejoin the Cabinet were unsuccessful.

The resignation of the Republican Army Chief of Staff, Lieutenant-General Urip, and one of his major advisers, who were members of the Republican special committee negotiating the technical details of the cease-fire and truce, also followed Dr Sjarifuddin's acceptance of the six principles.

General Urip, it is understood, claimed that he was not consulted before the Republican decision was announced.

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The Conservative peers, outnumbering the Government peers by 12 to one, can now hold up the bill limiting their powers by the present maximum of two years. By making the bill retroactive, however, the Government will ensure that measures such as the Iron and Steel Bill, which will be introduced at the next session, will automatically become law along with the Parliament bill in 1949.

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MILITARY MEN IN GOVERNMENT

Chicago, Jan. 23.—Defence Secretary James V. Forrestal said today there is "no conscious plan to plant military men throughout the government."

He added: "The people would not stand for it."

Mr. Forrestal said he believed it was "bad to plant men from any particular group through the government."

He made the statement in response to a query for his views on the appointment of military personnel to government jobs generally and attempts by President Truman to have Maj-Gen Laurence S. Kuter appointed chairman of the Civil Aeronautics Board.

He said he had received a letter from Congress asking for comments on government appointments. "I think our government needs views accumulating from men from various groups," he said.

Balanced Forces

Mr. Forrestal said the Navy and Marines are close to their manpower goals but that the army ground forces are deficient in manpower.

He said there is a tendency to think too much about air power at present, adding: "We must remember there are the ground forces and the navy. We must keep in mind the need of balanced forces."

He said he had not heard from Gen. Douglas MacArthur for three months and had no idea when Gen. MacArthur would retire.

Asked if he believed Gen. MacArthur would seek Presidential nomination, Mr. Forrestal said: "I do not know whether he will run. If doubt if he does."—United Press.

As Gen. Franco Sees It

Madrid, Jan. 23.—General Francisco Franco told the Political Board of the Spanish Communist Party that the "grave period" of the war was going through was not so much "postwar" as "prewar," according to reliable sources here today.

Stressing Spain's continued strong anti-Communist position, he said the country must at all times hold herself in readiness to meet danger.

He referred to the position of Greece as "an example of the lengths to which Russia was ready to go."

General Franco was reported to have said that Spain's internal economic situation was far from satisfactory although difficulties could be solved by increased production and harder work.

Criticising the Falangist Party, he said only the Youth Front deserved his approval.—Reuter.

British Protest To Argentina

Buenos Aires, Jan. 23.—The Argentine Government announced today that a group of army specialists would shortly go to the Antarctic on a cruise with two vessels of the Argentine Navy.

The Argentine Government is at present studying two letters from Britain on the action Argentina has taken in what the Argentine Foreign Minister has called "the Antarctic sector of Argentina, over which Britain maintains aspirations."

A British Foreign Office spokesman remarked this week that Britain has protested sharply against the erection of an Argentine base on Concepcion Island, in the British Falkland Island Dependencies.

The Argentine's reply is expected next week, probably on Monday.

The rejection of the British notes has been advocated in the Buenos Aires press and the newspaper La Prensa said: "The Falklands are ours; there can be no question, no dispute, and no bargaining."—Reuter.

Scientist Warns New York Of Earthquake Danger

New York, Jan. 23.—A Harvard scientist, Dr. L. Don Leet, professor of seismology, warned today that the city of New York should make preparations to combat the emergency of a possible disastrous earthquake which might strike some day in the future.

He said New York, Boston and other cities on the east coast should profit by the sad experience of west coast cities.

In his new book, "Causes of Catastrophe," Dr. Leet admitted that some seismologists may disagree with his reported "seismic province embracing New England and adjacent sections of north-eastern America in an epoch of increasing seismicity which probably has not yet passed its climax."

He reported that in years gone by the intervals between larger shocks have been decreasing which is an indication of the approach of a new "epoch of increasing seismicity."

Dr. Leet said: "There is absolutely no way of knowing there will be as



"I love these fast numbers!"

Europe Now A Factor In World Balance Of Power

London, Jan. 23.—The Government, with the approval of all parties, has committed itself to the creation of an association of Western European countries, in the first place, through joint economic planning and a five-power treaty of alliance between Britain, France, Belgium, Holland and Luxembourg.

This, in a sentence, is the essence of the two-day foreign affairs debate, which concluded tonight, in the House of Commons.

One speaker, the left winger, Richard Crossman, today claimed that the new policy announced by the Foreign Secretary, Mr. Ernest Bevin, amounts to an abandonment of Britain's traditional aim of a European balance of power as a result of the recognition that Europe has become a mere factor in a world balance of power.

The Foreign Secretary and the Prime Minister, Mr. Attlee, resisted to announce a detailed plan of a Western European association and policy. Consequently, only events can show how far Mr. Crossman's claim that a landmark in British foreign policy was effected today is justified.

Limited Results

For the present, Mr. Bevin and Mr. Attlee prefer to achieve limited results in laying the foundations of a Western European association and then to build a wider union on these results.

They acknowledged the risk to being accused of failing to give sufficient dynamic lead to encourage

Move To Stop Defacement Of Buildings

Shanghai, Jan. 24.—The local authorities have moved to prevent a repetition of the defacement of buildings carried out by student demonstrators last Saturday.

At the City Government's weekly meeting yesterday, regulations were passed, prohibiting citizens "gathering together and spoiling any public or private structure or wall."

The authorities warned that violators of these regulations would be made to compensate for the damage done.

The new regulations follow the action of students in defacing buildings on the Bund during the anti-British demonstration last week with tar-painted slogans, many of which were found very difficult to remove.

While the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank is looking for an effective solvent to remove the unsightly inscriptions on its building, Jardine, Matheson and Company succeeded in removing all slogans by using a blow torch to melt the excess tar and then employing kerosene to remove the balance.

In some instances where tar had gone deep into the stone, they had to resort to chipping the surface of the stone.—Reuter.

FRENCH INSIST ON DEVALUATION

Paris, Jan. 23.—Information from reliable sources here tonight seemed to show that the French Government feels obliged to go ahead with its plans to devalue the franc whatever the decision of the International Monetary Fund, whose Board is now considering the plans in Washington.

The French scheme, as at present contemplated, involves establishing a double exchange rate.

Subject to last minute changes, the plan is:

A new official exchange rate for the dollar to be about 210 francs to the dollar. This would be combined with the free market for free currencies, that is to say, for the dollar and the Swiss franc as well as for gold.

There would be no free dealings in the pound sterling rate, for which would be quoted at 804 francs to the pound, thus preserving the same relation between the pound and the dollar as at present.

Exporters would sell half their foreign exchanges obtained against their sales at the new official dollar rate, and half at the free market rate.

While the purchase of foreign currency would be subject to the control of the authorities, the sale of foreign currency would be entirely free.—Reuter.

Spaak's Meeting With Leopold

Brussels, Jan. 23.—It was officially announced after the Belgian Cabinet meeting today that M. Paul Henri Spaak, the Belgian Premier, met the exiled King Leopold of the Belgians in Geneva last Sunday.

The interview took place on a decision by the Belgian Cabinet and at the invitation of King Leopold. It was also announced that a second interview between M. Spaak and the King had been arranged to take place following the King's return from his trip to Cuba.—Reuter.

OUTWARD MAILS

Unless otherwise stated, registered articles and parcels close 30 minutes earlier than the ordinary mail. Mail closes before 10 a.m. registered and parcels will close at 5 p.m. on previous day.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 24

Closing Times By Air
Shanghai, Hankow, Tientsin, Canton, Amoy, 3.30 p.m.
Swatow, Tainan and Amoy, 3.30 p.m.
Kunming and Calcutta, 3.30 p.m.
Canton (Train), 1.30 p.m.
Bangkok and Bombay (Sea) 3 p.m.
Manila, P.I. (Sea) 3 p.m.
Hankow and Peking (Sea) 3 p.m.
Kobe (Sea) 4 p.m.
Canton (Sea) 5 p.m.

SUNDAY, JANUARY 25

Closing Times By Air
Bangkok, Singapore, Batavia, Colombo, Sydney and Auckland, 2.45 p.m. (reg.).
2.55 p.m. (ord.).
Shanghai, Canton, Amoy, 3.30 p.m.
Hankow, Tientsin and Peking, 2.45 p.m. (reg.).
2.55 p.m. (ord.).
Tainan, 2.45 p.m. (reg.).
2.55 p.m. (ord.).
Kobe, 2.45 p.m. (reg.).
2.55 p.m. (ord.).

Closing Times By Sea & Train

Manila, P.I. (Sea) 3.30 a.m. (ord.).
Shanghai, 9 a.m. (reg.), 9.30 a.m. (ord.).
Amoy, Canton, Tientsin, Peking, 9 a.m. (reg.), 9.30 a.m. (ord.).
Kobe, 9 a.m. (reg.), 9.30 a.m. (ord.).
Canton, 9 a.m. (reg.), 9.30 a.m. (ord.).
Hankow, 9 a.m. (reg.), 9.30 a.m. (ord.).
Kunming, 9 a.m. (reg.), 9.30 a.m. (ord.).
Swatow, 9 a.m. (reg.), 9.30 a.m. (ord.).
Canton (Train) 7 a.m.

MONDAY, JANUARY 26

Closing Times By Air
Manila, P.I. (Sea) 3.30 a.m. (ord.).
Shanghai, 9 a.m. (reg.), 9.30 a.m. (ord.).
Amoy, Canton, Tientsin, Peking, 9 a.m. (reg.), 9.30 a.m. (ord.).
Kobe, 9 a.m. (reg.), 9.30 a.m. (ord.).
Canton, 9 a.m. (reg.), 9.30 a.m. (ord.).
Hankow, 9 a.m. (reg.), 9.30 a.m. (ord.).
Kunming, 9 a.m. (reg.), 9.30 a.m. (ord.).
Swatow, 9 a.m. (reg.), 9.30 a.m. (ord.).
Canton (Train) 7 a.m.

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Kunming, 9 a.m. (reg.), 9.30 a.m. (ord.).
Swatow, 9 a.m. (reg.), 9.30 a.m. (ord.).
Canton (Train) 7 a.m.

NOTICE

UNRRA CLOSURE

All concerned are hereby notified that the Hongkong Office of UNRRA will close on the 31st January 1948. All claims should be submitted and all cheques cleared immediately.

The Bank Account will be closed on the 30th January 1948. After the 31st January all correspondence should be addressed to:

Mr. Harlan Cleveland,
Director,
UNRRA—China Office,
Embankment Building,
370 North Soochow Road,
SHANGHAI—O.

signed,
R. B. GOODWIN,
Closure Officer.

CHURCH NOTICE

GOSPEL HALL
(Buddell Street, Hongkong)

(Between the Bank of China and the National City Bank of New York)
Sunday 11 a.m. Breaking of Bread (for Believers only).
Sunday 8 p.m. Gospel Meeting.
Tuesday 8 p.m. Bible Study.
Thursday 8 p.m. Prayer Meeting.
All English speaking friends are welcome.

Printed and published by FRANKLIN PERCY FRANKLIN for and on behalf of South China Morning Post Limited at 1-3 Wyndham Street, City of Victoria, in the Colony of Hongkong.

Letters To The Editor

K'loon City Problem Brain's-Trusted

Sir,—As I see it—with a modicum of perspicacity, a Brain's Trust would define the Kowloon squatter problem something like this:—
"A somewhat difficult question...in the sense that if a squatter...always assuming that one can define a squatter...has no locus standi...that of the act (and within the meaning of the act) is not entitled to squat...as it were...and after all, one cannot get away from the Law and...get away with it. In other words, it is ridiculous to suggest that Kowloon is a city...I mean, Kowloon never was a city...or that I really mean is that Kowloon City is not a city, because I quite agree that Kowloon...is distinct from Kowloon city...really is a city...whereas Kowloon city is not...that is to say, of course...in the true sense of the term. To digress for one moment...I believe it was Dickens who wrote 'A Tale of Two Cities'...and just imagine what a tale he could write of one city...er...always assuming as I said before that Kowloon city is a city...and that brings me back to my original thought...er...oh yes...What...I ask you is a squatter, and what right has he to squat when?...GONGI
CLEAR AS DUST.

EXTRA RICH NIGHT CREAM
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Air Bases In Cyrenaica

London, Jan. 23.—Representatives of Britain and the United States have discussed in London tentative plans for the setting up of a chain of Anglo-American tactical air bases in Cyrenaica, North Africa.

Observers in London consider that such bases would probably be primarily in the Benghazi area with some at the eastern end of Cyrenaica, possibly around Tobruk.

There is already a wartime aerodrome at El-Aden, outside Tobruk. British troops evacuated from Palestine will probably be moved to Cyprus, Benghazi and Tripoli, it was reliably learned here today.

The new bases, the observers consider, would probably be smaller than the Air Transport Command base which the United States is reopening at Mellaha, near Tripoli.

PLEDGE TO CHIEFTAIN

The future of any bases planned as the outcome of the present Anglo-American talks will, of course, be subject to the decisions on the future of the former Italian colonies which the "Big Four" delegates may make later this year.

Britain's wartime pledge to Sayid Muhammad Idris, El Senussi, chief of the Senussi tribes, that Cyrenaica should not be handed back to Italian rule in any form makes it at least possible that Britain's close connection with Cyrenaica will be maintained, Reuters.

Train Smash: 3 Killed

London, Jan. 23.—Three men were killed and 34 men and women were injured when a packed electric train from Ore, near Hastings, crashed into the rear of an empty stationary Brighton train at London Bridge station this morning.

Those killed included the motor-man of the Ore train and a man who was standing by a bookstall on the platform. The other casualty was a leather motorcyclist on the Ore train. His identity is as yet unknown.

The Ore train forced the Hastings train through the station buffers, demolishing a bookstall in which two passengers were trapped. The two railwaymen were trapped for three hours in the demolished cab.

Rescue parties used all kinds of tools, including a huge breakdown crane, in desperate efforts to free them, but when it became known that they were dying, a clergyman forced his way through the twisted metal to comfort them before they died. The two bodies were extricated later.

Nineteen of the injured passengers were taken to Guy's Hospital. Many had miraculous escapes, Reuters.

EDITORIAL

Still A Breeding Ground

MORE than a month ago the Telegraph reported on the condition of the detention cells at the Central Police Station. They were filthy, insanitary and grossly overcrowded—a breeding ground for epidemics and disease. This week we again inquired about the state of the cells, the report being: The Sanitary Department was requested to clean the cells, which was done immediately. A new set of latrines has been provided for the prisoners to replace the leaking wooden buckets, and these are now emptied twice a day instead of once. The PWD were asked to whitewash the cells. They succeeded in treating the ceilings, but found that the whitewash would not stick to the walls, and this task was temporarily abandoned, with the promise that the workmen "would be back sometime" to scrape, clean and whitewash the walls, "when they had time." Blankets have been provided for the inmates, and the Police have suggested that the empty offices on the north side of the Central Police Station compound be converted into dormitories, with proper ventilation and flush facilities. This project has been proposed to the PWD who have promised they will attend to it "sometime soon." The public will gain little satisfaction from such a dreary endeavour to correct a scandalous situation. It is appreciated that the Public Works Department is extremely busy, but surely it realises that the work of putting the detention cells into a state of habitation which, at the very least, offers protection against the cultivation and spread of epidemics, is a top priority obligation. It is well recognised in official places that the detention cells as they exist today (and have done for the last 50 years) provide a perfect breeding ground for contagious diseases. In fact, there is small doubt that the only reason why there has been no outbreak of epidemics in the cells is because the prisoners are detained too short a time for germs to become virulent; but they are carried into the Colony, and possibly even outside when deportees are sent away. The damage caused by filth and overcrowding may never become apparent in the cells, but undoubtedly it has its effects upon the health of the Colony generally. Aside from the humanitarian aspects (which are of considerable importance) we again emphasise, in the interests of the Colony's health, the necessity for rapid improvement in conditions in the detention cells. Procrastination by any department in dealing with this problem is unforgivable. The cost is little, but the gain, from every point of view, can be great.

Mr Attlee's Vigorous Attack On Communism

CANNOT SHUT EYES TO POSSIBILITY OF WAR

London, Jan. 23.—The Prime Minister, Mr Clement Attlee, today followed up the warning to Soviet Russia against "playing with fire in international affairs" given by his Foreign Minister, Mr Ernest Bevin, yesterday with another strong attack on Communism.

"We recognise that there is in Communism a dynamic force," he said in winding up the two-day debate on foreign affairs in the House of Commons. "It is a fanatical movement enlisting the support of people of a certain type of mind or in a certain condition of society and it has become the official creed of a great nation. It has but slight appeal to those with experience of Western civilisation, but it does make an appeal to backward peoples who have never known anything better."

"Communism has a tremendous driving force. But Britain was not prepared to accept Communism, although she wishes to have the friendliest relations with the people of Soviet Russia and with the Communist state."

"We are absolutely opposed to the Communist way of life. The police state is completely repugnant to the people of Western Europe."

"We shall not try to foist our system on the Soviet Union and we equally demand they should not attempt to foist theirs on us. I am sure Mr Stalin is enough of a realist to appreciate the complete failure during the difficult inter-war years of the Communist creed to make any effective advance in this country."

"Therefore, he should give up the idea that somehow or other, Britain is going to turn to Communism."

IDEOLOGICAL ASSAULT

Britain, he said, was opposed to the Communist conception of unity, the office essence of democracy is the difference of opinion, free discussion, tolerance of other people's points of view.

"The world we want to see is one in which there are a number of diverse and different units as compared with the Communist world, in which they try to make Bulgaria and Yugoslavia little copies of Russia."

"If Western civilisation is to stand against this ideological assault, I am talking of a war of ideas and not of bombs—it must attain a degree of unity."

"But any attempt to get uniformity would defeat the very object we have in mind."

Mr Attlee said that although Britain naturally desired to see all countries turn to democratic socialism, it was not for Britain to interfere.

He believed, however, they could all work together despite differences because they had one point in common—believing that, in a modern world, there must be an ordered economy.

The 19th-century conception of an "anarchic system of private enterprise" was dead today.

HUMAN RIGHTS

Another thing which united Western Europe was the recognition of human rights.

"It is curious that there are some would-be Leftwingers who close their eyes to the absence of human rights when they look to Eastern Europe."

"These people have no right to claim they are in the van of human progress. The only van they are in is the police van."

"In the field of human rights, Russia and the states of Eastern Europe are right at the back end of the queue."

He could not understand how people could oppose the Marshall Plan when they had nothing whatever to put in its place, unless they were prepared to march to the rehabilitation of their ideals through death and starvation of millions.

Mr Attlee believed that Britain has the chance of giving a great lead. Britain was showing that what was wanted to a social revolution could be brought about by peaceful and democratic means—that one could get a planned economy without sacrificing human rights and liberties.

That was the work she had before her.

POSSIBILITIES OF WAR

Amid cheers, Mr Attlee said he did not believe it was good to be talking of war. On the other hand it was no good shutting one's eyes to the possibility of war.

"I do not believe war to be imminent, but I believe we have to use our greatest exertions to do away with the causes of war and prevent war arising."

There was anxiety in the House of Commons over the results of the world being divided on ideological lines.

There was also great anxiety at the course of the Russian actions. There was a general desire to know the real object of the Russian about Russia. No answer was given even by those who habitually explained the Russian point of view.

Parliament, Mr Attlee declared, recognized the need of leadership in the non-Communist world and there was general support for Mr Bevin's policy of closer political and economic integration of Europe, coupled with the recognition that Western Europe could not live by itself.

Hence this desire for a wider integration with Africa and other overseas territories with the great Western democracies and with the British Dominions.

The union of Europe needed to be achieved under the larger unity of the United Nations Organisation. European civilisation must spread all over the world.

MUST PRESS AHEAD

As for the practical steps on European economy, there was already machinery in progress for the allocation of wheat, rice, oils and other materials, some on a world and some on a European basis.

The possibilities of a Western European customs union had also been examined and were now passing through the technical stages at Brussels.

This would mean that trade would eventually become free throughout that area. "We should press ahead with the utmost vigour with this idea, consistent with the immense complexities of this problem," Reuters.



GENERAL EISENHOWER

Eisenhower Refuses To Be Candidate For Presidency

Washington, Jan. 23.—General Eisenhower today finally and positively repudiated efforts to nominate him for President. He told Republican supporters that he "could not accept nomination to high political office."

General Eisenhower's positive statement came after months of speculation on whether he would or would not be a candidate. He had disavowed political ambitions on many occasions, but never, until today, with sufficient force to persuade his admirers he really meant it.

He is generally counted as the most glamorous potential political figure in the country and many Republicans had hoped to capitalise on his winning smile.

Polls indicated that on the basis of present conditions he would have defeated President Truman if he had headed the Republican ticket in November's Presidential election.

MAY BOOST DEWEY

His withdrawal probably will be counted a boost for Governor Thomas Dewey's Presidential ambitions. The New York Governor's political appeal has generally been second only to General Eisenhower's among potential Republican candidates.

General Eisenhower accompanied his refusal with a word of advice for other professional military men. It was that, except under the most extraordinary circumstances, they should stay out of politics.

Among those being advanced for the Republican Presidential nomination is General Douglas MacArthur, who has been entered in the Wisconsin Presidential primary.

General Eisenhower's statement presumably will cause his New Hampshire delegate slate to withdraw, leaving the contest there between delegates representing ex-Governor Harold Stassen of Minnesota.

"CANNOT ACCEPT"

In his statement, the Chief of Staff said he could not accept the nomination even under the remote circumstance that it was tendered to him.

He stated his position in a letter to Leonard Funder, publisher of the Manchester (New Hampshire) Free Press. The Army said the letter was being released "because General Eisenhower hopes through this means to inform every interested person or group that he is not in politics and would refuse nomination even if offered."

General Eisenhower said the decision to remove himself completely from the political scene was "definite and positive" and he wrote to Mr Funder:

"I know you will not object to my making this letter public to inform all interested persons that I could not accept nomination."

He said he hoped Funder would understand that his conclusions were not only sound but had been arrived at objectively. He added that he heretofore had withheld a bald statement that he would not accept nomination because he considered it would be an "effrontery."

"UNALLOYED TRAGEDY"

"It is my conviction that necessary and wise subordination of military to civil power will best be sustained...when lifelong professional soldiers...abstain from seeking high political office."

He said it would be "unalloyed tragedy" if future military commanders were selected with an eye to their potentialities in the political

NORSE QUEEN WINS CHAMPION STAKES

Easily Repeats Last Year's Success

As expected, Norse Queen, ridden by Donald Black, won the 1948 Champion Stakes at Happy Valley this afternoon, beating Sookunpots (S. W. Pang) in easy fashion by many lengths.

V-J Day, the only other starter, trailed many lengths behind Sookunpots, and generally speaking it was a colourless and disappointing race.

Norse Queen started a racing favourite and paid out \$5.20 for a win and \$5.10 for a place. The weather was overcast and rather cold for the last day of the annual Spring carnival, but a huge crowd turned up. Fields were on the large side, but dividends were light.

A. Ostrumoff scored twice in the first five races, piloting Beckenhalm and Domino home to popular victories.

Results of the first six races and cash sweeps follow.

1. HAY AND CORN STAKES (First Section). For Australian Subscription stakes of 1948. Winners barred. Half a mile.
Sapientia (K. S. Leong) 147 1
Possibility (S. C. Yuen) 152 2
Sprinter (V. N. Needa) 152 3
Won by five lengths; 1½ lengths.
Time 54 seconds.
Part-Mutuel 13.50 winner, Places 6.30, 10.20, 4.00.
Also ran: Chief Witness (B. C. Tai), Gentleman Jim (L. S. Mui), Good Day (Y. K. Tai), Hyaline (W. K. Shih), Pearl Bridge (S. W. Lee), Princess Delight (C. F. Ng), Sino Marshall (M. W. Tang), Toonoomin Bay (C. L. Gregory), Topall (C. R. Lawrence), Trial Trip (G. A. Jones), 14 Starters.

2. CONSOLATION STAKES (First Section). For the second batch of Australian Subscription stakes of 1948 only. Winners barred. One mile.
Beckenhalm (A. Ostrumoff) 147 1
Flying (S. C. Yuen) 147 2
Tri For Tat (B. L. Tao) 147 3
Won by a length; many lengths.
Time 1:34.1
Part-Mutuel 7.30 winner, Places 5.30, 6.40, 6.20.
Also ran: Autumn Leaf (W. K. Shih), Eudelia (S. L. Yuen), Frostlight (K. Kwok), Palma (L. S. Leong), Prince Of Foxes (K. F. Chiu), Purity (M. W. Tang), Queen's Gate (M. M. Buech), Radar (Y. K. Tai), Sans About (P. S. Leong), Some Fun (R. K. C. Chui), 13 Starters.

3. HONGKONG HANDICAP. For Australian Subscription stakes of 1948 only. One and a half miles.
Fifth Alarm (V. N. Needa) 153 1
Pecy (B. L. Tao) 153 2
Vasion (B. L. Tao) 153 3
Won by 2½ lengths; 3 lengths.
Time 2:22.3
Part-Mutuel 16.80 winner, Places 6.50, 6.20, 6.20.
Also ran: Crown Witness (K. F. Chiu), Flying Arrow (W. K. Shih), Golden Wreath (M. W. Tang), Happy Valley (K. Kwok), National Congress (C. F. Ng), Rose Marie (A. Ostrumoff), Sunlight (S. C. Yuen), 10 Starters.

4. ALSO RAN STAKES (First Section). For Australian Subscription stakes of 1948. Winners barred. Six furlongs.
Windermere (K. Kwok) 147 1
Pearl Diver (K. F. Chiu) 147 2
Shuttle (B. L. Tao) 147 3
Won by 6 lengths; 4 lengths.
Time 1:22.4
Part-Mutuel 46.30 winner, Places 8, 5.80, 6.70.
Also ran: Golden Eagle (M. W. Tang), Ingrid (S. W. Lee), Justice Of Peace (C. Lawrence), Kwong Yui (M. M. Buech), Marlin Maid (G. L. Jones), Shanghai (B. K. C. Chui), Sister (A. Ostrumoff), Superstition (Y. K. Tai), 11 Starters.

5. HAY AND CORN STAKES (Second Section). For Australian Subscription stakes of 1948. Winners barred. Half a mile.

Domino (A. Ostrumoff) 147 1
Funder (K. F. Chiu) 147 2
Amazon (S. L. Yuen) 147 3
Won by 1½ lengths; half a length.
Time 53.3 seconds.
Part-Mutuel 20.30 winner, Places 7.70, 6.50, 6.50.
Also ran: Countess Delight (C. F. Ng), Funder (B. L. Tao), Fort Knox (K. F. Chiu), Harvard (W. K. Shih), Lili Marlene (K. Kwok), Marbler (M. M. Buech), Noveltie (P. S. Leong), Smiling Meadow (F. A. Siqueira), The Chief (C. L. Gregory), The Stranger (L. S. Mui), V-J Day (B. L. Tao), 15 Starters.

CASH SWEEPS

RACE 1
No. 3452 \$2.922
No. 3554 \$ 825
No. 2113 \$ 417
Unplaced ponies (\$100 each) Nos. 3092, 2235, 2109, 479, 2769, 240, 3423, 4050, 1730, 4430.

RACE 2
No. 1090 \$3.110
No. 997 \$ 891
No. 479 \$ 449
Unplaced ponies (\$100 each) Nos. 4040, 2263, 2080, 4534, 3505, 2307, 2175, 2389, 144, 3509.

RACE 3
No. 845 \$3.471
No. 240 \$ 825
No. 2692 \$ 498
Unplaced ponies (\$100 each) Nos. 2060, 2235, 3576, 5122, 4071, 2093.

RACE 4
No. 910 \$3.400
No. 4066 \$ 891
No. 2640 \$ 449
Unplaced ponies (\$100 each) Nos. 4500, 3226, 1808, 3526, 635, 1714, 1746, 6022.

RACE 5
No. 9850 \$3.690
No. 2096 \$1.650
No. 4026 \$ 825
Unplaced ponies (\$100 each) Nos. 641, 2502, 2200, 2152, 3762, 3728, 2242, 4051, 2622, 5753, 1501.

RACE 6
No. 5603 \$4.600
No. 6093 \$1.420
No. 1070 \$ 713

MALAYAN FEDERATION BOYCOTT

Singapore, Jan. 23.—The Singapore Branch of the Malayan Communist Party today called for a boycott of the new Malayan Federation, which it called "a ruthless weapon for perpetuating colonialism" and the policy of "divide and rule."

They urged "every adherent to democratic principles" to boycott the Federation Legislature and the Singapore elections.

The treaty establishing a Federation of Malaya, consisting of nine Malay States and the Settlements of Penang and Malacca, was signed on Wednesday by Sir Edward Gent, Governor of the Malayan Union, and the Sultans of the Malay States.

The Privy Council is expected to sign the Order-in-Council ratifying the treaty on January 26, so that the Federation can be put into force on February 1.—Reuters.

Russia Rejects UN Request To Visit North Korea

Lake Success, Jan. 23.—The United Nations announced today that Soviet Russia has rejected a request by the UN Assembly's Korean Independence Commission to enter the Northern (Soviet) zone of Korea.

The Soviet position, which in effect restricts the Commission's efforts to the Southern (US) zone was set forth in a letter from Soviet Deputy Foreign Minister Andrei Gromyko to Secretary General Trygve Lie. The letter, dated January 22, said:

"In connection with your letter of January 18, 1948, transmitting the text of a letter from the acting chairman of the Commission on Korea, in which he expresses desire to visit the Commander of Soviet troops in Northern Korea, we find it necessary to remind you of the negative attitude taken by the Soviet government towards the establishment of the UN Commission on Korea as already stated by the Soviet delegation during the second (1947) session of the General Assembly of the United Nations."

United States delegate Warren R. Austin said the Commission now working out of Seoul "ought to go ahead and organise the Southern zone" regardless of Russia's attitude.

Some delegates speculated privately that the UN might as well forget the Northern zone in any plans to establish an independent Korea.—Associated Press.

Turkey Is Disappointed

Ankara, Jan. 23.—Turkey is "deeply disappointed" that she has been classified so low on the list of the states to receive aid under the Marshall Plan and hopes that the United States will modify her present view, it was reported here today.

Following the publication this week of the American State Department's "best guess" estimates of aid during the first 15 months of the plan, in which it was stated that Turkey would get by grants or loans from the United States Government, President Inonu was said to have told the United States Ambassador, Mr Edwin C. Wilson, of his country's disappointment.

A Turkish Treasury director who is to visit Britain and the United States will try to persuade London and Washington to reassess Turkey's needs.—Reuters.

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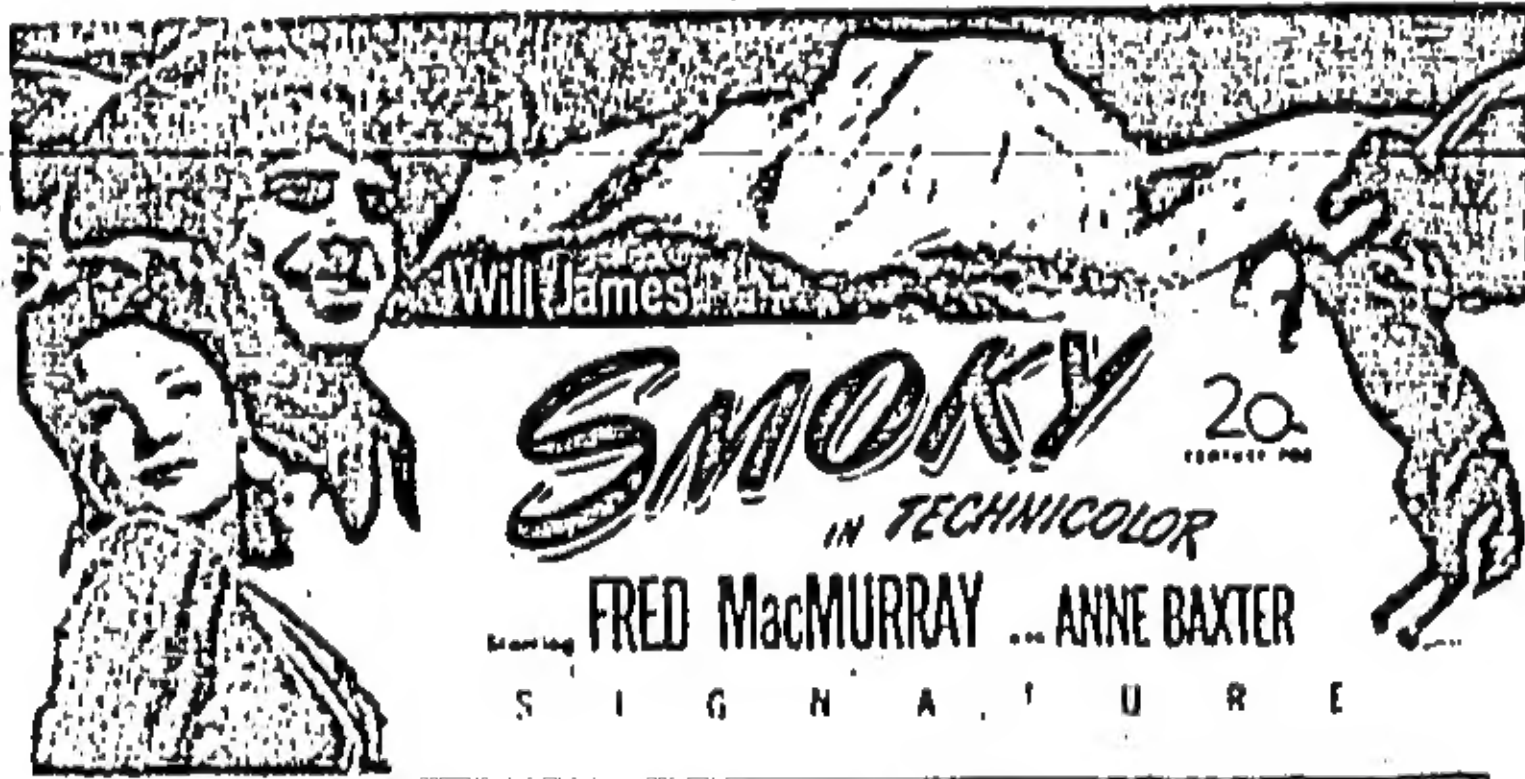
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Bing CROSBY • Bob HOPE • Paulette GODDARD in

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FRANK MORGAN & TOM DRAKE
AN M-G-M HIT

Stars accuse the film bosses

THERE are signs that restlessness among British film stars over "sausage-machine" production methods is coming to a head. The drift from the studios to stage work is one significant portent.

The rather pompous announcement by the Rank organisation, suspending Margaret Lockwood's contract for declining a role, is unimportant in itself. They have already chosen a new film for her, "My Sister Is Dead."

But the incident is the first public manifestation of an unhealthy tendency in Big Business film methods here.

Many stars and directors have complained to me of the bureaucratic system.

Directors find they are being "directed" from a high executive level in a way that stifles imagination and enthusiasm. Stars are complaining of type-casting and the compulsion, under long-term contracts, of acting in unsuitable roles. This is why an increasing number

JOAN DOWLING
Bond-street incident

of our film-makers are breaking away to work independently of the big group system. It is a natural artistic urge towards freedom of the screen.

FARR GETS TOUGH

ANATOLE DE GRUNWALD, film writer and producer, who left the Rank fold to form his own company, is to follow "Bond Street," now nearing completion at Welwyn, with an adaptation of the Pushkin classic, "Queen of Spades."

Ethel Barrymore, pillar of the American stage and screen, may come over to London to play one of the principal parts.

In "Bond Street"—which contains four distinct stories, linked together by a wedding-dress—Derek Farr gets his first big acting chance. He will be seen in a tough character-role.

BOND-STREET TENT

BEST story of this production concerns the scenes filmed in Bond-street itself.

Director Gordon Parry and two cameramen set up a "telephone-repairers" tent on the kerb. They donned workmen's overalls and, for two days, squatted in the enclosure with miniature cameras.

The actors mingled quietly with the shoppers; no one bothered to glance into the "hole-in-the-road" tent. The best shot of all was unplanned.

Studio Highlights And Sidelights

SIR Laurence Olivier's "Hamlet," which will be shown for the first time in April, cost £500,000 to produce. Even with all the efforts at retrenchment it still costs about £200,000 to make most major British pictures. An exception is "Shadow of Tomorrow"—which deals with Britain's employment of ex-Nazi concentration camp scientists on research for a possible future war at £70,000.

BOX-OFFICE SCORES FOR 1947

LONDON.—New York's National Board of Review of Motion Pictures names Celia Johnson and Michael Redgrave the best actress and actor of 1947.

In 1946 the critics of 10 New York daily papers picked Miss Johnson as that year's best actress for her part in "Brief Encounter." The Board selected Miss Johnson for her part in "This Happy Breed," Redgrave for his part in "Mourning Becomes Electra."

It considered Chaplin's "Monsieur Verdoux" the best film in 1947.

The Board included "Great Expectations," "Odd Man Out," "The Overlanders" and two Italian productions in the year's 10 best pictures.

The American film weekly, Showman's Trade Review, considers James Mason the most popular actor in Britain with Anna Neagle and Margaret Lockwood sharing the lead of actresses.

The Kinematograph Weekly says the best box-office film of 1947 in Britain was "The Courtneys of Curzon Street."

Runners-up were "Great Expectations," "Odd Man Out," "Frieda," "Holiday Camp" and Hollywood's "The Johnson Story" and "Duel in the Sun."

This journal says John Mills led James Mason and Margaret Lockwood as the most popular stars. Gainsborough was the most successful studio of the year 1947.

COMMOTION IN 7 LANGUAGES

Merle Oberon sneezed on the set of "Berlin Express" and caused a commotion in seven languages. Chicago-born Robert Ryan said, "God bless you."

Charles Korvin gave the Hungarian word, "Ezerégyéjszika."

Paul Lukas, who plays a German in the film, stayed in character with "Gesundheit."

Director Jacques Tourneur, born in Paris, said, "A vos souhaits."

Polish-born Roman Toporow came up with "Na zdrowie."

And Linguist Peter von Zerneck filled in with the Italian "Salute" and the Rumanian "Noroc."

Eighteen-year-old Joan Dowling (she was the eldest evicuee in the play "No Room at the Inn") had to saunter along the street as an overdressed match-maker from a fashion house.

When the "rushes" were shown on the studio screen, there appeared the visage of a man, turning and gazing with interest at Joan. It fitted the scene so well that the shot is being kept in.

The unwitting actor may be in for a shock at his local cinema.

NOISES OFF

I HAVE no intention of gate-crashing the To Boo or Not To Boo debate. But recent demonstrations at Covent Garden call for comment.

Friendly operative rivalry is healthy. But if this rivalry is going to foster vocal factions among the followers of the theatres concerned, we can look for some disconcerting developments.

Impartial observers have suspected that there might be more than appeared on the surface behind some of the opera boos lately. Correspondence I have received lends colour to this view.

We have plenty of room in London for opera in English and Italian. There is no need for the partisans to wage a miniature war.

POET'S PALACE

GAINSBOROUGH'S idea of making a Byron film, with Dennis Price in the lead, is an interesting one, though attempts to dramatise literary genius do not always succeed, as a recent Shelley-Byron play again instanced.

The film will picture some of the authentic Italian backgrounds, including the poet's old palace on the Venetian Grand Canal. Mr Price and a location until have recently been out there.

But I am sorry they are calling the picture "The Bad Lord Byron." This seems a cheap pandering to the wrong kind of box-office appeal.

was maintained to dress jungle sets in "Tarzan and the Mermaids."

MALAYAN-BORN Dulcie Savagely (Dulcie Gray to film-goers) has found an attractive job or herself. With husband Michael Dennis she will star in film called "The Glass Mountain," which will necessitate a location trip to the Dolomites. Michael will be a pianist, Dulcie a silly wife, as she is in the current "Mine Own Executioner."

OBJECTIONS of the present Lord Byron to Gainsborough's film "The Bad Lord Byron" appear to have been overcome. The 66-year-old descendant of Lord George Byron, the poet, recently entertained at his home, Thrumpton, Mr. Dennis Price, the actor with the title role in the film.

Spencer's The Man For The Ladies

By PATRICIA CLARY.

WHO'S the man who most strongly influences today's women, emotionally? Clark Gable, Van Johnson, Frank Sinatra, her husband?

No, fellows, it's Spencer Tracy. That's what the ladies said, when poll-takers from the Women's Research Guild of America asked them. They said Tracy had a strong, dependable look about him that was very influencing.

Gable, Johnson and the rest of the screen's romantic figures came in poor seconds. In the past, it was a foregone conclusion that any actor in the cast was a romantic hero but Tracy. No matter how sympathetic Tracy's character, the other fellow got the girl. Gable did for years.

The strength of Gable's romantic scenes was measured in kisses, Tracy's by slammed doors. He was the man who always walked out and said "goodbye."

Tracy Steps Out

But in "Cass Timberlane," M-G-M's movie of the Sinclair Lewis novel about a respectable Minnesota judge, Tracy brings the dependable, influential hero into his own. He not only marries Lana Turner but takes her away from Cameron Mitchell and keeps Zachary Scott, the wolf, from the door. He does it again in the Frank Capra picture, "State of the Union," in which he is married to Katharine Hepburn, who according to the script is wildly in love with him, and attractive to Angela Lansbury.

Tracy even holds his own, in Miss Lansbury's affections, against Van Johnson. "And that is some satisfaction," Tracy said. "It's almost as satisfying, he said, as being chosen, hands down, the No. 1 influence on American women's emotions."

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NOTICE TO ADVERTISERS

Advertisers are requested to note that not less than 24 hours notice prior to the day of publication should be given for all commercial display advertisements, change of copy etc. Notices and Classified Advertisements will be received up till 4.30 p.m. for the following day.

TELEGRAPH WEEK-END PICTORIAL

CROWDS PACK VALLEY
FOR ANNUAL RACES

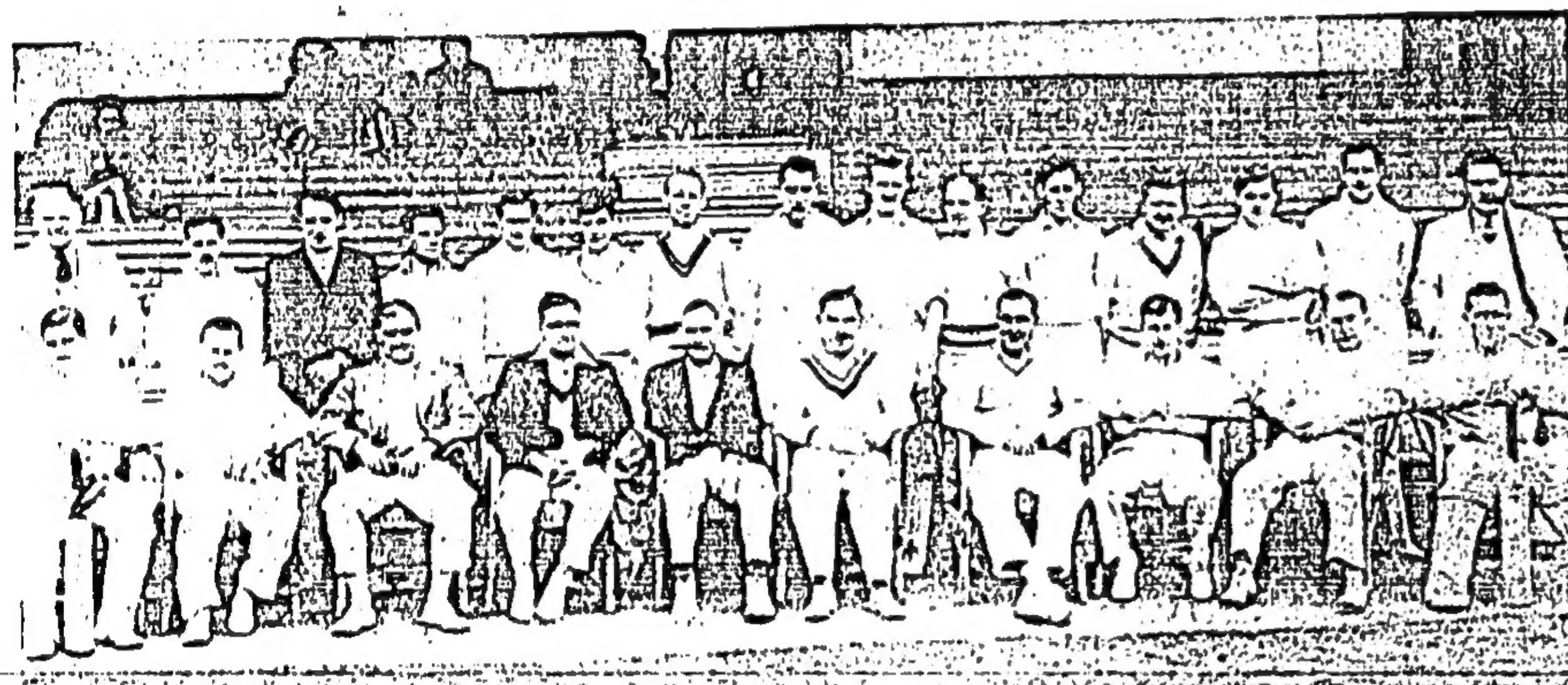
THE 1948 annual meeting of the Hongkong Jockey Club opened in brilliant weather last Saturday. Large crowds packed the stands and enclosures throughout the first three days of the meeting. Picture on the top right hand corner of the page gives an idea of the large attendance on Derby Day. Above, the Derby winner, Ataman, ridden by Mr E. A. Brodie, is seen being cheered in after winning the classic. The Ladies' Purse was won by Mr M. M. Boycott on Black Market, and the jockey is seen in top centre picture being presented with the purse by Miss Joan Kenniff. Right, scene during the drawing of the Derby sweepstake. (Photos: Golden Studio and Ming Yuen)



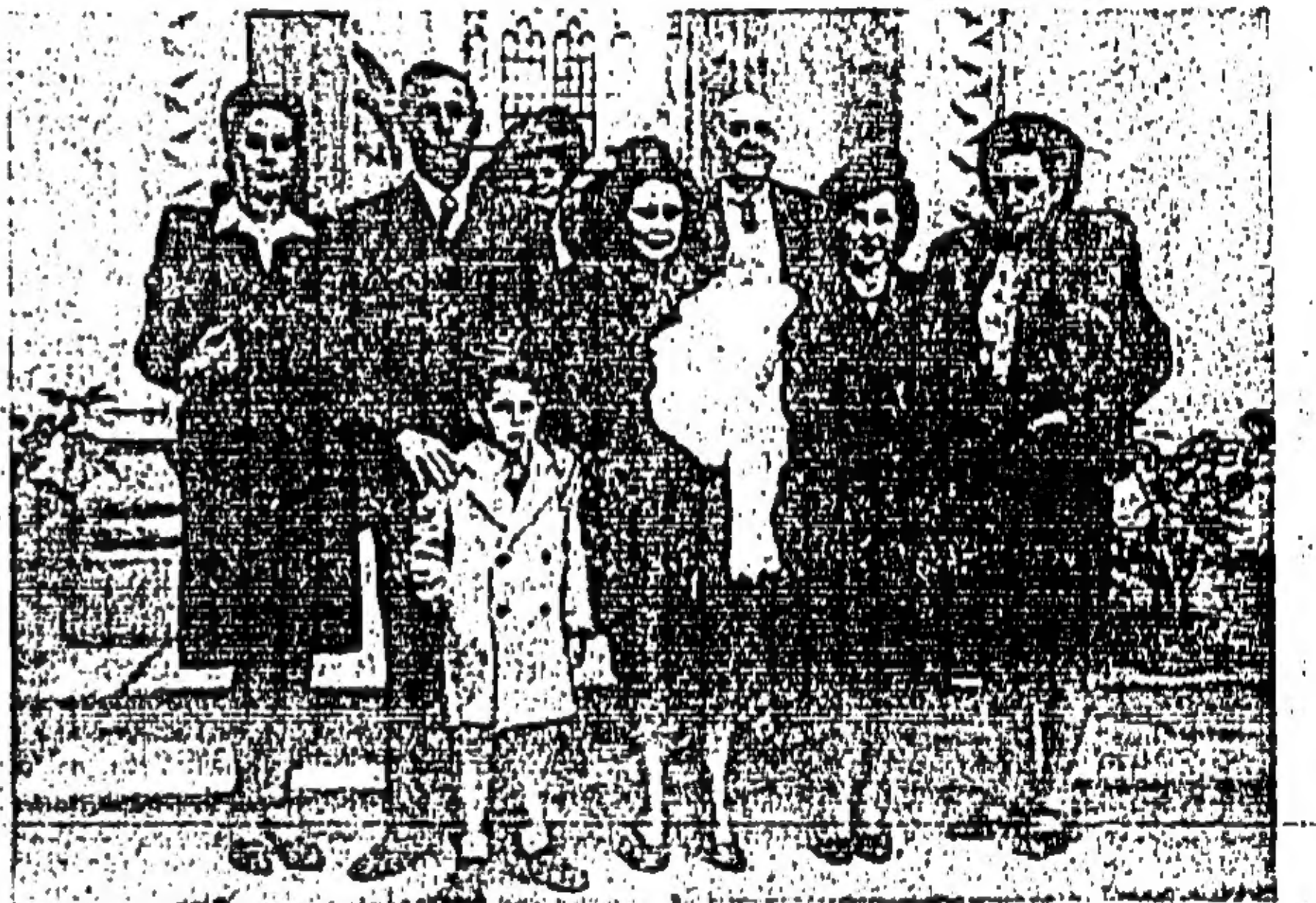
MLE. MICHELINE JOBEZ, eldest daughter of the French Consul-General and Mme. Jobez. Portrait was taken on her fifteenth birthday. (Photo: A's Studio)



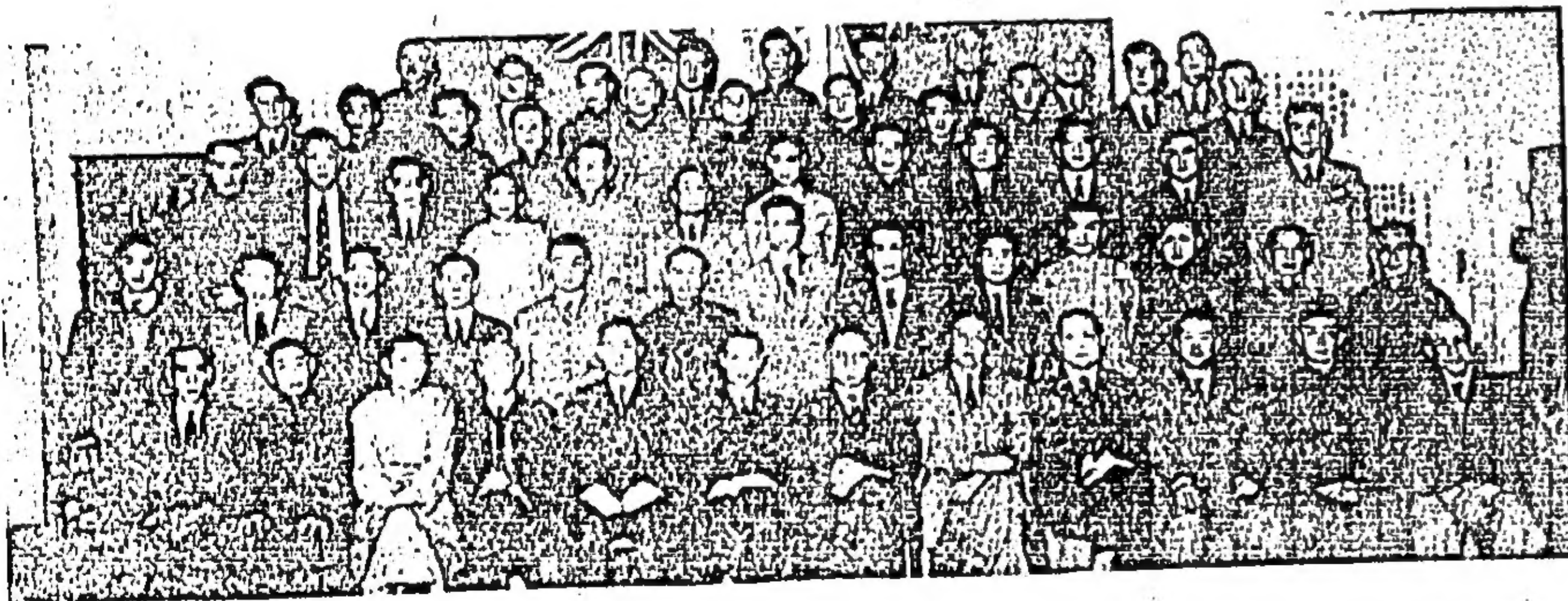
DEANNE ALWYNNE, infant daughter of Mr and Mrs R. R. Davies, was christened at St John's Cathedral last Sunday. (Photo: Ming Yuen)



INTER-HONG CRICKET—Teams from Messrs. Butterfield and Swire, Ltd. and Messrs. Jardine, Matheson and Co., Ltd., which met in a friendly cricket match last Sunday. The former won by 26 runs. (Photo: Ming Yuen)



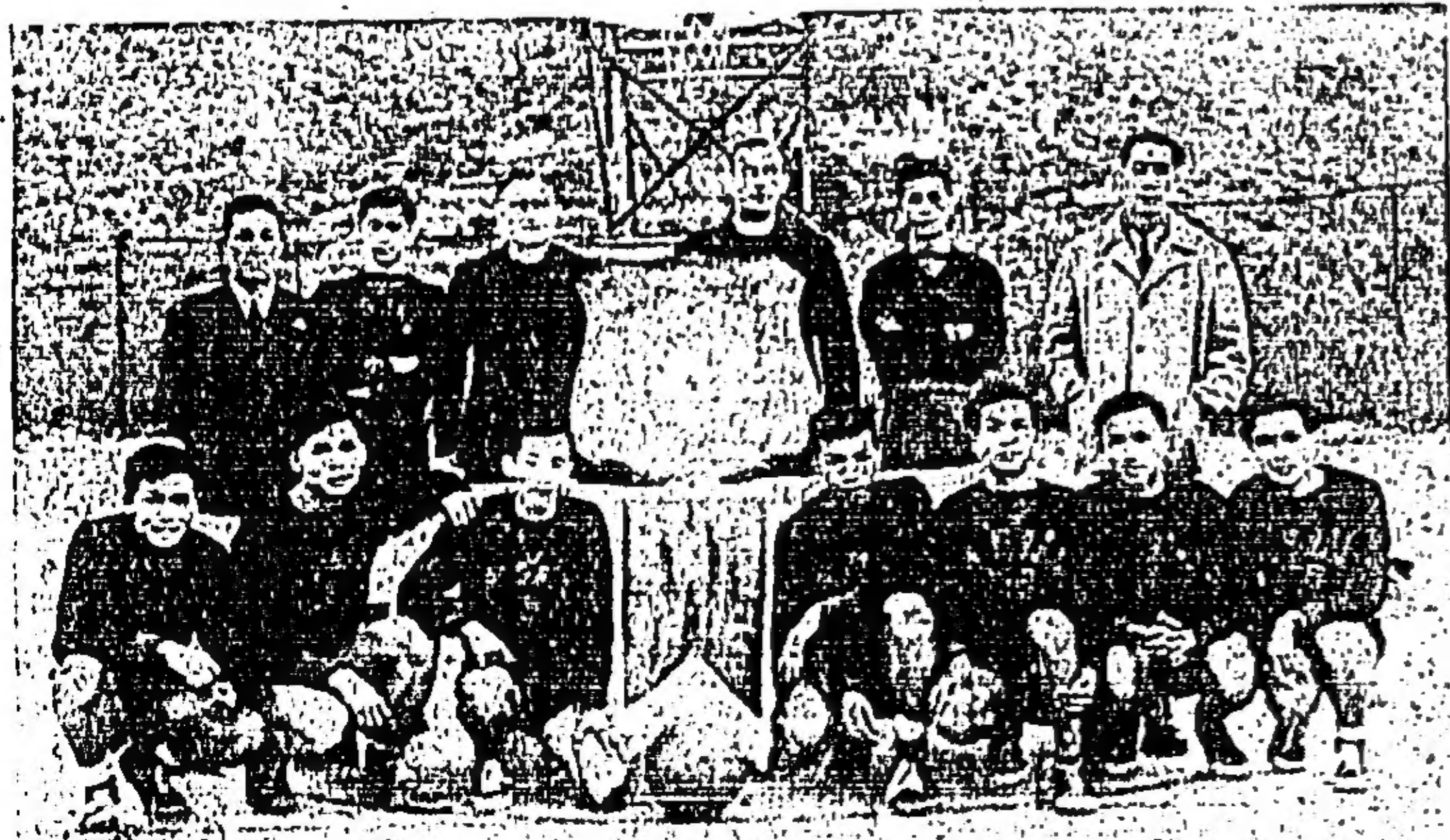
ANOTHER christening at St John's Cathedral last week was that of Michael Bradbury, infant son of Mr and Mrs S. A. Fowler. (Photo: Ming Yuen)



PHOTOGRAPH shows the Committee and members of the Hongkong Flour Merchants' Association. (Photo: Mao Cheung)



MR AND MRS JOHNSON LEE photographed on the occasion of their Silver Wedding together with their children. Mr Lee is the chief accountant of the Bank of Canton, with which organisation he has been connected for more than 25 years.

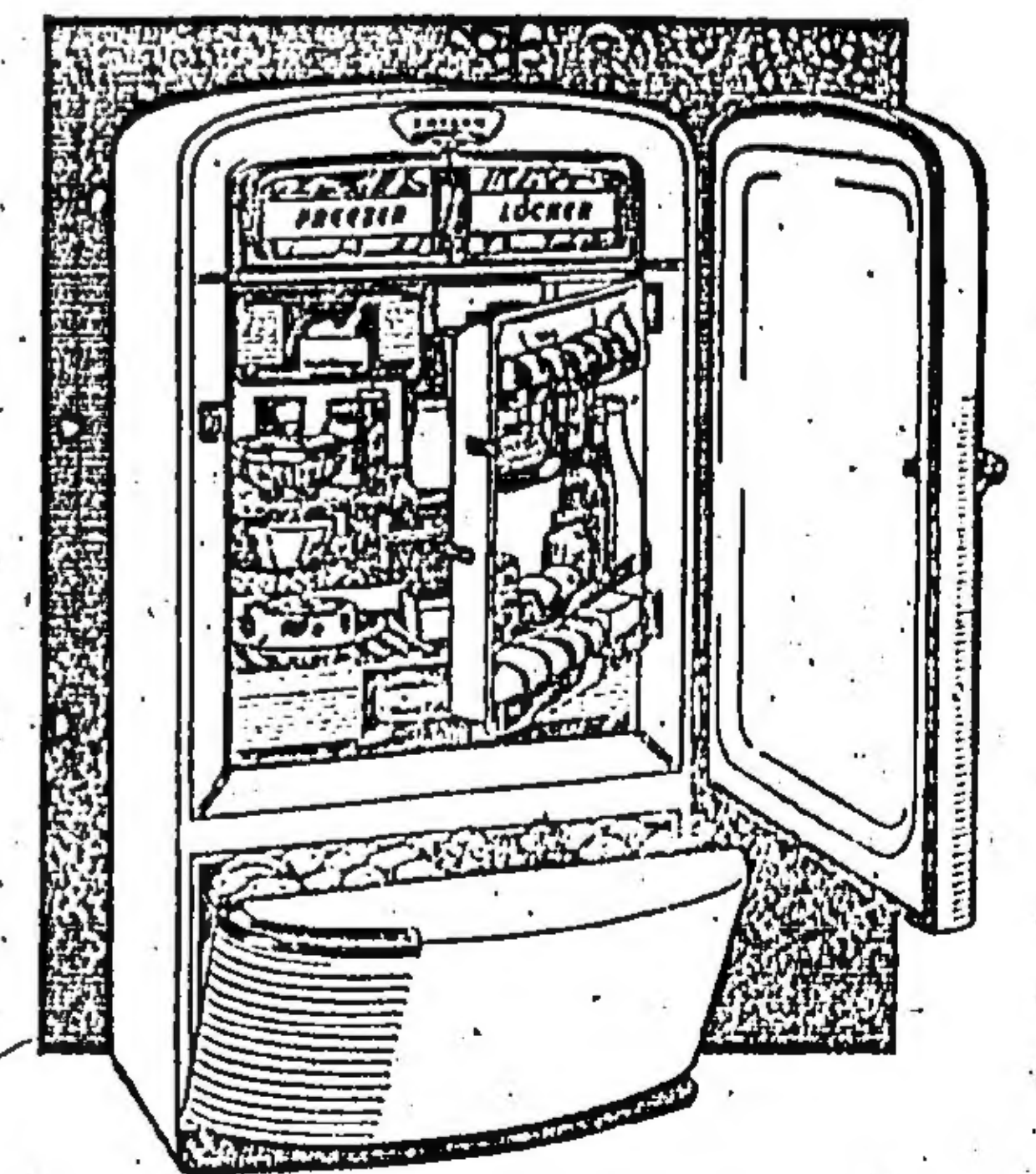


INTER-SCHOOL BASKETBALL—Above is the La Salle College team, which won the senior league organised by the South China Athletic Association. On right is the Chung Hwa Middle School team, which won the junior league. (Photos: Golden Studio)



PHILCO

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Jap Politics Riddled With Corruption

Tokyo, Jan. 23.—Prominent American occupation officials charged today that Japanese politics is honeycombed with graft and ridden with gangsterism.

In public conference with members of the Japanese press, Mr. Guy J. Swope, former Governor of Puerto Rico, who is now a member of SCAP's government section, uttered a vigorous warning that certain vicious elements in Japanese politics must be exterminated.

"Unless by some means or other the people of Japan can free themselves from the cancer of corruption and graft in politics, their chances to enjoy the benefits of a free government and free society are slight indeed," he said.

Old influences
Mr. Swope added that many old influences which prevented the sound, orderly development of political parties are gone.

"The gunbatsu (military clique) have been eliminated and the power of the zaibatsu (economic clique) has been broken, but today there are the shinken kaikyū (new rich) and shinko zaibatsu (new money clique) whose impact is being felt upon political parties and their operations," Mr. Swope said.

"Then there are the gangsters and black market racketeers, who wield certain influence in politics. The extent of this can be guessed when it is recalled that one of the most notorious gangsters in the nation now in prison was almost elected a member of the present Diet."

Evil corrupt
Mr. Swope charged that "there are many indications that evil and corrupt influences are playing a very important part in the politics of this nation."

"It seems significant that in Japan while many small politicians are brought into court for improper practices, rarely if ever a national figure is arrested for corruption and graft," he added.

"Why is it they are never brought to the bar of justice? Is it because of a peculiar idea in Japan which places those who are on the top of the pile above the law?" United Press.

THE FALL OF SINGAPORE

Two Questions Still Unanswered

Singapore, Jan. 23.—The newspaper Free Press, commenting on the dispatch of Air Chief Marshal Sir Robert Brooke-Popham, Commander in Chief, Far East, 1940-1941, published today, said the failure to recognize that Japan would strike was "the most serious entry of all in a docket heavy with error and miscalculation."

The newspaper considered that though further despatches might cause distress, they should be published.

The English-language, Chinese and Malay newspapers today featured a 9,000-word report of the despatch, and the Malay Tribune declared the report would serve to "whet the appetite" for the despatches of Lieutenant General Arthur Ernest Percival, who was "surrendered" in the Far East when Singapore fell.

"Why was the surrender made when the British Command had about 90,000 men to throw into action?"

"If the situation was hopeless, as it is now seen apparently to have been, why did General Wavell issue the evasive Order of the Day on February 10, 1942, ordering all commanders to resist to the last and die at their posts rather than withdraw?"—Reuter.

3-POWER TALKS NEXT MONTH

London, Jan. 23.—The forthcoming three-power conference on the future of Western Germany will probably be held from February 17 to February 19, it was learned from a reliable source today.

The final decision on time and place of the conference, expected to be held in London, has still to be taken.

A Foreign Office spokesman in London said the central issue before the conference would be the constitution of Western Germany and not, as several press reports suggested, the Frankfurt proposals recently submitted to the German Premiers.

He agreed, however, that a discussion of the Frankfurt proposals, to which the French Government has raised objections, will certainly take place.—Reuter.

Max Schmeling Will Fight Again This Year

Frankfurt, Jan. 23.—Max Schmeling, former world heavyweight champion, told a correspondent of the German-news service in the city today that he expects to meet the German title holder, Heini Ten Hoff, for the championship sometime this autumn.

Schmeling declared that he was trying to arrange a match in Sweden with Ole Tandberg, the Swedish champion, or John Nilsson.

He said he would not fight the Italian, Giovanni Martin, in Sweden, since Swedish sports regulations did not permit matches between two foreigners.

Schmeling denied rumours that financial difficulties had compelled him to stage a "comeback."

"The only reason is my love of boxing," he said.—Reuter.

Indonesian Cabinet Decides To Resign

Batavia, Jan. 23.—The Indonesian Republic's National Cabinet, headed by Dr Amir Sjarifuddin, resigned tonight, exactly one week after the signing of the truce agreement with the Dutch.

The resignation had been predicted after the crisis this week over the conditions attached by the Republic to its acceptance last Monday of the six political principles suggested by the United Nations Security Council's "Good Offices" Committee as the basis for a substantive political settlement to the two-and-a-half-year-old dispute with the Dutch.

Broadcasting from Jogjakarta tonight, the President of the Republic, Dr Soekarno, told Indonesian radio listeners that he had given his Vice-President, Dr Mohammad Hatta, a mandate to form a new government.

The names of the new Ministers are expected to be announced tomorrow.

The resignation of the Sjarifuddin Cabinet heightens the crisis that has arisen since the signing of the truce and the Republic's conditional acceptance of the political principles.

The difficulties of Dr Amir Sjarifuddin began on January 15, the day the Republican Government, after long deliberations with the Security Council's "Good Offices" Committee, announced that it would accept the Dutch proposals for a truce, fixing demilitarized zones along the demarcation line defined by the Netherlands East Indies Lieutenant Governor General, Dr Hubertus van Mook, between the Dutch and the Republican forces.

Subsequent efforts to induce the Sjarifuddin Cabinet to resign were unsuccessful.

The resignation of the Republican Army Chief of Staff, Lieutenant General Urip, and one of his major generals, who were members of the Republican special committee negotiating the technical details of the cease-fire and truce, also followed Dr Sjarifuddin's acceptance of the six principles.

General Urip, it is understood, claimed that he was not consulted before the Republican decision was announced.

Political Principles
The most serious difficulty for Dr Sjarifuddin, however, arose this week-end when the Netherlands objected to the manner in which the Republican Premier had accepted the most significant six of the 18 political principles suggested by the "Good Offices" Committee.

The Netherlands Government yesterday said that its delegation had accepted the six principles fully and unconditionally, and expected the Republic to do the same.

The Republican acceptance had been conditional upon matters recorded in the minutes of its vital meetings with the "Good Offices" Committee before its acceptance of the truce terms at Jogjakarta.

These have been disclosed, but are understood to concern the period before a political settlement is reached.

Republican sources in Batavia said that if that had been done, several of the major political parties, probably including Dr Sjarifuddin's own Socialist Party, would have withdrawn their support from the Government.

Although there is not yet any definite information from Jogjakarta, Republican sources here believe that the fall of the Cabinet came about in anticipation of this happening.

Cabinet Reshuffled
The Sjarifuddin Cabinet took office on the fall of the Cabinet of Dr Sutan Sjahrir last July, just before the Dutch began their policy action. It was formed from a coalition of left wing parties, of which Dr Sjarifuddin himself was leader, and the Nationalist Party, with some Moslem support.

The Cabinet was reshuffled in November to include the Masjumi Party.

According to the Republicans, the "Good Offices" Committee had assured Dr Amir Sjarifuddin in the minutes that the Republic's status was not compromised by the first of the six principles, which said that Netherlands sovereignty would remain until transferred to the United States of Indonesia, and provided for the Republic to accept state status in the United States of Indonesia.

Dr. Frank P. Graham, the American member of the "Good Offices" Committee, and Dr T. K. Critchley, the Australian deputy member, are flying to Jogjakarta tomorrow to endeavour to settle this difficulty.

Committee's Advice
Reliable sources said tonight that it was considered likely that the "Good Offices" Committee would have told Dr Sjarifuddin of his conditional acceptance and advised him to accept unconditionally.

Dr. Hatta, who succeeds Dr. Sjarifuddin, recently returned to Jogjakarta from Sumatra, where he has been leading the Republicans.

He had been Vice-President since the Republic was first formed on August 17, 1945.

Dr Hatta was educated in Holland and had been one of the leaders of Indonesian nationalism since the twenties.—Reuter.

MILITARY MEN IN GOVERNMENT

Chicago, Jan. 23.—Defence Secretary James V. Forrestal said today there is "no conscious plan to plant military men throughout the government."

He added: "The people would not stand for it."

Mr Forrestal said he believed it was "bad to plant men from any particular group through the government."

He made the statement in response to a query for his views on the appointment of military personnel to government jobs generally, and attempts by President Truman to have Maj-Gen Laurence S. Kuter, acting chairman of the Civil Aeronautics Board.

He said he had received a letter from Congress asking for comments on government appointments.

"I think our government needs views accumulating from men from various groups," he said.

Balanced Forces
Mr Forrestal said the Navy and Marine Corps close to him manpower but that the army ground forces are deficient in manpower.

He said there is a tendency to think too much about air power at present, adding: "We must remember there are the ground forces and the navy. We must keep in mind the need of balanced forces."

He had not heard from Gen. Douglas MacArthur for three months and had no idea when Gen. MacArthur would retire.

Asked if he believed Gen. MacArthur would seek Presidential nomination, Mr Forrestal said: "I do not know whether he will run, or if he does."—United Press.

As Gen. Franco Sees It

Madrid, Jan. 23.—General Francisco Franco told the Political Board of the Spanish Falangist Party that the "grave period" the world was going through was not so much "postwar" as "prewar," according to reliable sources here today.

Stressing Spain's continued strong anti-Communist position, he said the country must at all times hold itself in readiness to meet danger.

He referred to the position of Greece as "an example of the lengths to which Russia was ready to go."

General Franco was reported to have said that Spain's internal economic situation was far from satisfactory, although difficulties could be solved by increased production and harder work.

Criticising the Falangist Party, he said only the Youth Front deserved his approval.—Reuter.

British Protest To Argentina

Buenos Aires, Jan. 23.—The Argentine Government announced today that a group of army specialists would shortly go to the Antarctic on a cruise with two vessels of the Argentine Navy.

The Argentine Government is at present studying two notes from Britain on the action Argentina has taken in what the Argentine Foreign Minister has called "the Antarctic sector of Argentina, over which Britain maintains aspirations."

A British Foreign Office spokesman remarked this week that Britain has protested sharply against the erection of an Argentine base on Conception Island, in the British Falkland Islands Dependencies.

The Argentine's reply is expected next week, probably on Monday.

The rejection of the British notes has been advocated in the Buenos Aires press and the newspaper La Prensa said: "The Falklands are ours, there can be no question, no dispute, and no bargaining."

Reuter.

Scientist Warns New York Of Earthquake Danger

New York, Jan. 23.—A Harvard scientist, Dr L. Don Lee, professor of seismology, warned today that the city of New York should make preparations to combat the emergency of a possible disastrous earthquake which might strike some day in the future.

He said New York, Boston and other cities on the east coast should profit by the sad experience of west coast cities.

In his new book, "Causes of Catastrophe," Dr Lee admitted that some seismologists may disagree with his reported "seismic province embracing New England and adjacent sections of north-eastern America in an epoch of increasing seismicity which probably has not yet passed its climax."

He reported that in years gone by the intervals between larger shocks have been decreasing which is an indication of the approach of a new "epoch of increasing seismicity."

Dr Lee said: "There is absolutely no way of knowing there will be as



"I love these fast numbers!"

Europe Now A Factor In World Balance Of Power

London, Jan. 23.—The Government, with the approval of all parties, has committed itself to the creation of an association of Western European countries, in the first place, through joint economic planning and a five-power treaty of alliance between Britain, France, Belgium, Holland and Luxembourg.

This, in a sentence, is the essence of the two-day foreign affairs debate, which concluded tonight, in the House of Commons.

One speaker, the left winger, Richard Crossman, today claimed that the new policy announced by the Foreign Secretary, Mr. Ernest Bevin, amounts to an abandonment by Britain of her traditional aim of a European balance of power as a result of the recognition that Europe has become a mere factor in a world balance of power.

The Foreign Secretary and the Prime Minister, Mr. Attlee, resisted to announce a detailed plan of Britain's new adventure in foreign policy. Consequently, only events can show how far Mr. Crossman's claim that a landmark in British foreign policy was effected today is justified.

Limited Results
For the present, Mr. Bevin and Mr. Attlee prefer to achieve limited results in laying the foundations of a Western European association and then to build a wider union on these results.

They acknowledged the risk to being accused of failing to give sufficient dynamic lead to encourage

the war-shattered people of Western Europe to resist the persistent threat of Communist encroachment.

A spokesman for the Government made it quite clear that the European association, at which Britain is aiming, is not intended to be exclusive, politically or geographically, and is based on the realisation that since the economy of the Western European countries is not complementary the existing links with Africa, Asia and the Western Hemisphere must be developed as an integral part of the new planned European economy.

Neither the Foreign Secretary nor the Prime Minister tried to minimise the difficulties of the task to which the British and French Governments have committed themselves, either in the economic or in the ideological field.

General Agreement
The foreign affairs debate demonstrated beyond doubt that Mr. Bevin will have the fullest support and approval of Parliament in all his attempts to bring the new association of Western Europe into being as quickly as possible.

This support is based on the general agreement of all Government and Opposition Members on the following points:

1. The only effective check to the spread of international Communism and the only basis for dealing realistically with Moscow is the successful economic recovery of Western Europe.

2. That this can be achieved only by joint economic planning to raise production and nationalise distribution throughout Western Europe.

3. That even with an increasingly planned economy, Western Europe can never live by itself as an isolated economic unit.

4. That the Marshall programme of European economic recovery, with its 16-power Committee of Economic Co-operation, is an essential part of any Western European association.

5. That Britain can and must combine her economic links with the Commonwealth, with a fuller share in the collective economic planning in Western Europe; and that traditional overseas trade links of the Western European countries should not only continue but should be drastically extended according to a common plan.

6. That no association of Western Europe can succeed as a negative scheme for the military containment of Russia, but must be so framed as to recapture the political initiative for the non-Communist world.—Reuter.

Letters To The Editor

K'loon City Problem Brain's-Trust

Sir,—As I see it—with a modicum of perspicacity, a Brain's Trust would define the Kowloon squatter problem something like this:—
"...A somewhat difficult question...in the sense that if a squatter...always assuming that he has no focus stand...that is to say...within the meaning of the act (and what an act)...the squatter is not entitled to squat...as it were...and after all, one cannot get away from the Law and...er...get away with it. In other words, it is ridiculous to suggest that Kowloon is a city...I mean, Kowloon never was a city...or what I really mean is that Kowloon City is not a city, because, I quite agree that Kowloon...as distinct from Kowloon city...really is a city...whereas Kowloon city is not...that is to say, of course...in the true sense of the term. To digress for one moment...I believe it was Dickens who wrote 'A Tale of Two Cities'...and just imagine what a tale he could write of one city...er...always assuming as I said before that Kowloon city is a city...and that brings me back to my original thought...er...oh yes...What...I ask you is a squatter, and what right has he to squat when?...GONG!
CLEAR AS DUST."

FRENCH INSIST ON DEVALUATION

Paris, Jan. 23.—Information from reliable sources here tonight seemed to show that the French Government feels obliged to go ahead with its plans to devalue the franc whatever the decision of the International Monetary Fund, whose Board is now considering the plans in Washington.

The French scheme, as at present contemplated, involves establishing a double exchange rate.

Subject to last minute changes, the plan is:

A new official exchange rate for the dollar to be about 216 francs to the dollar. This would be combined with the free market for free currencies, that is to say, for the dollar and the Swiss franc as well as for gold.

There would be no free dealings in the pound sterling rate, for which would be quoted at 664 francs to the pound, thus preserving the same relation between the pound and the dollar as at present.

Exporters would sell half their foreign exchanges obtained against their sales at the new official dollar rate and half at the free market rate.

While the purchase of foreign currency would be subject to the control of the authorities, the sale of foreign currency would be entirely free.—Reuter.

Spaak's Meeting With Leopold

Brussels, Jan. 23.—It was officially announced after the Belgian Cabinet meeting today that M. Paul Henri Spaak, the Belgian Premier, met the exiled King Leopold of the Belgians in Geneva last Sunday.

The interview took place on a decision by the Belgian Cabinet and at the invitation of King Leopold.

It was also announced that a second interview between M. Spaak and the King had been arranged to take place following the King's return from his trip to Cuba.—Reuter.

OUTWARD MAILS

Unless otherwise stated, registered articles and parcels close 30 minutes earlier than ordinary mail. If mail close before 10 a.m. registered and parcels will close at 9 a.m. on previous day.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 24
Closing Times by Air
Shanghai, Hankow, Tientsin, Canton, Peking, 3.30 p.m.
Swatow, Amoy, 3.30 p.m.
Kunming, Calcutta, 3.30 p.m.
Closing Times by Sea & Train
Swatow (Sea) 1.30 p.m.
Canton (Train) 2 p.m.
Bangkok, Bombay (Sea) 3 p.m.
Manila, P.I. (Sea) 3 p.m.
Hankow, Peking (Sea) 3 p.m.
Kobe, Tientsin & Shikoku (Sea) 4 p.m.
Kobe (Sea) 4 p.m.
Canton (Sea) 5 p.m.

SUNDAY, JANUARY 25
Closing Times by Air
Shanghai, Hankow, Tientsin, Canton, Peking, 3.30 p.m.
Swatow, Amoy, 3.30 p.m.
Kunming, Calcutta, 3.30 p.m.
Closing Times by Sea & Train
Swatow (Sea) 1.30 p.m.
Canton (Train) 2 p.m.
Bangkok, Bombay (Sea) 3 p.m.
Manila, P.I. (Sea) 3 p.m.
Hankow, Peking (Sea) 3 p.m.
Kobe, Tientsin & Shikoku (Sea) 4 p.m.
Kobe (Sea) 4 p.m.
Canton (Sea) 5 p.m.

MONDAY, JANUARY 26
Closing Times by Air
Shanghai, Hankow, Tientsin, Canton, Peking, 3.30 p.m.
Swatow, Amoy, 3.30 p.m.
Kunming, Calcutta, 3.30 p.m.
Closing Times by Sea & Train
Swatow (Sea) 1.30 p.m.
Canton (Train) 2 p.m.
Bangkok, Bombay (Sea) 3 p.m.
Manila, P.I. (Sea) 3 p.m.
Hankow, Peking (Sea) 3 p.m.
Kobe, Tientsin & Shikoku (Sea) 4 p.m.
Kobe (Sea) 4 p.m.
Canton (Sea) 5 p.m.

TUESDAY, JANUARY 27
Closing Times by Air
Shanghai, Hankow, Tientsin, Canton, Peking, 3.30 p.m.
Swatow, Amoy, 3.30 p.m.
Kunming, Calcutta, 3.30 p.m.
Closing Times by Sea & Train
Swatow (Sea) 1.30 p.m.
Canton (Train) 2 p.m.
Bangkok, Bombay (Sea) 3 p.m.
Manila, P.I. (Sea) 3 p.m.
Hankow, Peking (Sea) 3 p.m.
Kobe, Tientsin & Shikoku (Sea) 4 p.m.
Kobe (Sea) 4 p.m.
Canton (Sea) 5 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 28
Closing Times by Air
Shanghai, Hankow, Tientsin, Canton, Peking, 3.30 p.m.
Swatow, Amoy, 3.30 p.m.
Kunming, Calcutta, 3.30 p.m.
Closing Times by Sea & Train
Swatow (Sea) 1.30 p.m.
Canton (Train) 2 p.m.
Bangkok, Bombay (Sea) 3 p.m.
Manila, P.I. (Sea) 3 p.m.
Hankow, Peking (Sea) 3 p.m.
Kobe, Tientsin & Shikoku (Sea) 4 p.m.
Kobe (Sea) 4 p.m.
Canton (Sea) 5 p.m.

THURSDAY, JANUARY 29
Closing Times by Air
Shanghai, Hankow, Tientsin, Canton, Peking, 3.30 p.m.
Swatow, Amoy, 3.30 p.m.
Kunming, Calcutta, 3.30 p.m.
Closing Times by Sea & Train
Swatow (Sea) 1.30 p.m.
Canton (Train) 2 p.m.
Bangkok, Bombay (Sea) 3 p.m.
Manila, P.I. (Sea) 3 p.m.
Hankow, Peking (Sea) 3 p.m.
Kobe, Tientsin & Shikoku (Sea) 4 p.m.
Kobe (Sea) 4 p.m.
Canton (Sea) 5 p.m.

FRIDAY, JANUARY 30
Closing Times by Air
Shanghai, Hankow, Tientsin, Canton, Peking, 3.30 p.m.
Swatow, Amoy, 3.30 p.m.
Kunming, Calcutta, 3.30 p.m.
Closing Times by Sea & Train
Swatow (Sea) 1.30 p.m.
Canton (Train) 2 p.m.
Bangkok, Bombay (Sea) 3 p.m.
Manila, P.I. (Sea) 3 p.m.
Hankow, Peking (Sea) 3 p.m.
Kobe, Tientsin & Shikoku (Sea) 4 p.m.
Kobe (Sea) 4 p.m.
Canton (Sea) 5 p.m.

NOTICE

UNRRA CLOSURE
All concerned are hereby notified that the Hongkong Office of UNRRA will close on the 31st January 1948. All claims should be submitted and all cheques cleared immediately.

The Bank Account will be closed on the 30th January 1948. After the 31st January all correspondence should be addressed to:

Mr Harlan Cleveland,
Director,
UNRRA—China Office,
Embankment Building,
370 North, Soehow Road,
SHANGHAI—O.

signed,
R. B. GOODWIN,
Closure Officer.

CHURCH NOTICE

GOSPEL HALL
(Buddell Street, Hongkong)
(between the Bank of China and the National City Bank of New York)
Sunday 11 a.m. Breaking-of-Bread (for Believers only).
Sunday 8 p.m. Gospel Meeting.
Tuesday 8 p.m. Bible Study.
Thursday 8 p.m. Prayer Meeting.
All English speaking friends are welcome.

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